Rene Saguisag thrown out of Sandigan

STORY ON PAGE A3

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8 Pinoys confirmed missing in New York

By CARLA P. GOMEZ, YOLANDA FUERTES AND TJ BURGONIO

EIGHT Filipinos were confirmed missing while at least five others were spared from death during Tuesday's terrorist attacks on the World Trade Center, officials at the Philippine Consu-

8 PINOYS/ A20

US flights resume

US AIR TRAFFIC, at a standstill since Tuesday, was to resume Thursday, US officials said. Transportation Secretary Norman Mineta said he had ordered the US airspace system reopened to commercial and private aviation, effective at 11 a.m. EST Thursday (11 last night in Manila). "We will reopen airports and resume flights on a case-by-case basis, only after they implement our more stringent levels of security," Mineta said. The new security measures include more thorough searches and a total ban on knives that passengers may carry with them. *AFP*

Passengers were heroes

Group on UA Flight 93 fought terrorists, foiled 4th attack

"A GROUP of us are going to do something."

Thomas Burnett Jr., 38, called his wife four times from hijacked United Airlines Flight 93 to tell her that he and other passengers were planning to take matters into their own hands.

Deena Burnett turned on the television Tuesday morning to images of two passenger jets slamming into the World Trade Center towers.

She began to wonder about her husband, who was on a flight from New Jersey to San Francisco. Her mother-in-law called to ask if she heard from him.

Then another call came. It was Tom.

"He said, 'Deena.' And I said, 'Are you OK?' And he said, 'No.' And I knew then that he was right in the middle of it.

"He said, 'I'm on the airplane, the airplane that's been hijacked and they've already knifed a guy. They're saying they have a bomb. Please call the authorities.'"

He hung up.

Deena dialed the local police emergency number, and dispatchers put her through to the FBI. She was on the phone with agents when the second call came.

"I told him in the second call about the World Trade Center, and he was very curious about that and started asking questions. He wanted any information that I had to help him," she said.

In their last conversation, Burnett told his wife that he and some other passengers were taking action.

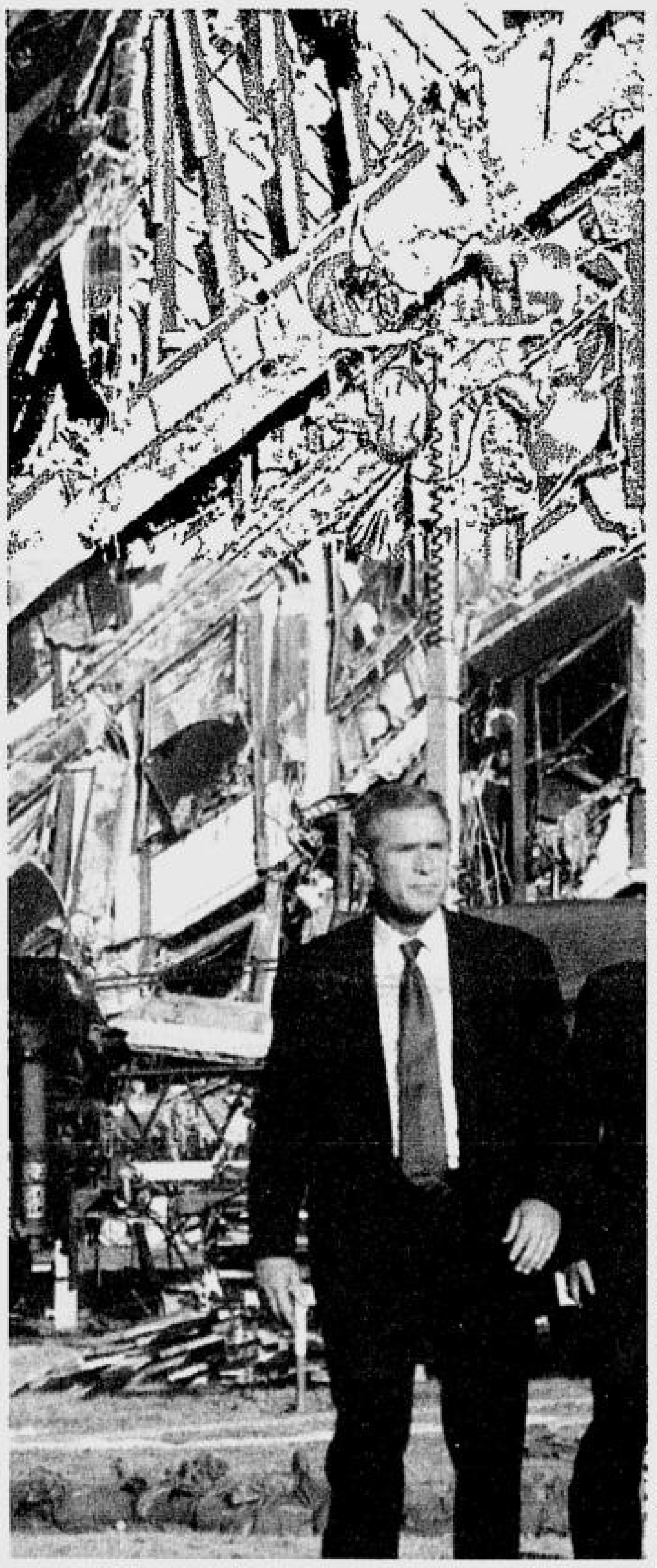
"I told him to please sit down and not draw attention to himself, and he said 'no,'" she said.

He didn't say goodbye.

"He was coming home. He wasn't leaving. He was going to solve this problem and come back to us," his widow said Wednesday from her home near San Francisco.

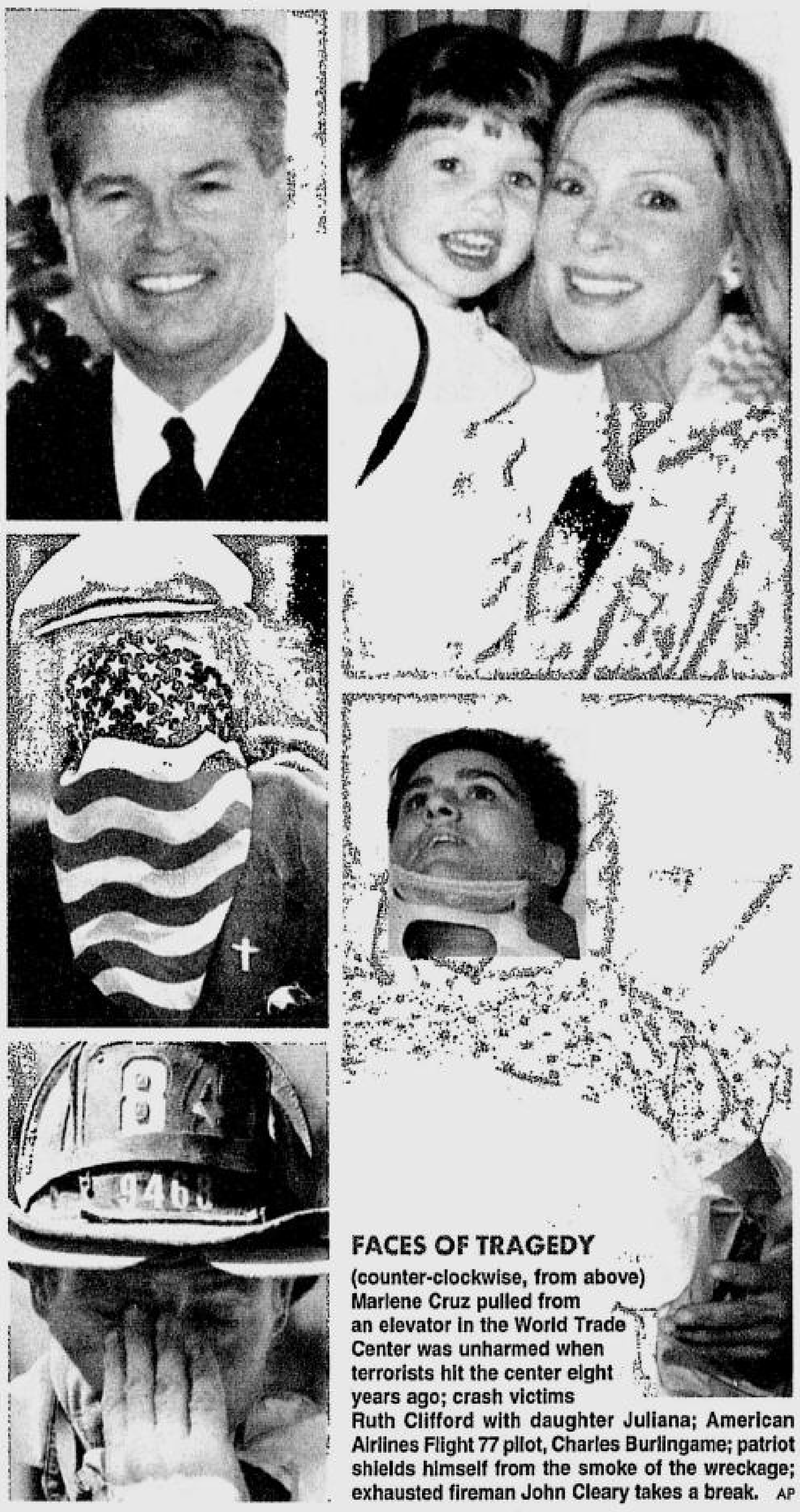
Minutes after his final call, Flight 93 crashed in an open field in southwest Pennsylvania. Officials have speculated the hijackers may have been headed for the White House

PASSENGERS/ A18



REUTERS

UNNERVING sight for President Bush: Nerve center of the US defense establishment, the Pentagon, in a shambles.



FACES OF TRAGEDY

(counter-clockwise, from above) Marlene Cruz pulled from an elevator in the World Trade Center was unharmed when terrorists hit the center eight years ago; crash victims Ruth Clifford with daughter Juliana; American Airlines Flight 77 pilot, Charles Burlingame; patriot shields himself from the smoke of the wreckage; exhausted fireman John Cleary takes a break. AP

Bush gains backing for war vs terrorists

WASHINGTON—President George W. Bush on Wednesday branded as "acts of war" the terrorist attacks in New York and Washington, but he did not seek yet a declaration of war from Congress despite global support for such an action.

White House officials said Bush needed to know his targets before deciding what, if any, authorization to seek from Congress.

The officials said any action that Bush would take to punish the terrorists and the nations harboring them depended on the outcome of the largest US criminal investigation in history.

Nonetheless, Bush met with congressional leaders at the White House to discuss legislation authorizing the use of force under the War Powers Act.

The attacks "were more than acts of terror," Bush said. "They were acts of war."

US Defense Secretary Donald H. Rumsfeld told American troops worldwide that they would be called to arms "in the days ahead."

BUSH/ A19

Bin Laden's power lies in global network

WASHINGTON—One reason for Osama bin Laden's staying power lies in his global network of "tools"—experts to whom he can turn for tips, such as which countries have the most porous borders or the most lax security. This network, stretching from Africa's Comoros islands to Jordan and from Canada to Australia, makes it possible for the Saudi billionaire to carry out large-scale terror attacks.

"These are all replaceable tools," said Vincent Cannistraro, a former chief of counterterrorism operations for the Central Intelligence Agency.

"When these people are captured . . . or when a suicide bomber kills himself, there are other volunteers to take their place."

It doesn't take a large network to offer support, Cannistraro said, just people who believe in the movement and are willing to die for the cause.

"It's the best kind of network

BIN LADEN'S/ A18

Most massive probe in US history starts

AT LEAST one hijacker on each of the four planes in Tuesday's terrorist attacks on the United States was trained at a US flight school, US Attorney General John Ashcroft said Wednesday, giving details of what he called perhaps the "most massive and intensive investigation" in his country's history.

Ashcroft said the attackers also targeted the White House and Air Force One, the presidential plane. These targets were not hit, but the World Trade Center towers in New York were toppled, and the Pentagon was gashed and set aflame. A fourth hijacked plane crashed in Pennsylvania. *(See related story.)*

The identities of more than a dozen of the men who hijacked the four planes have been ascertained, US justice and FBI officials said.

"Four planes were hijacked by between three to six individuals per plane, using knives and box-cutters and in some cases making bomb threats," Ashcroft said.

Overall, counting accomplices, 50 people may have been involved in the well-financed operation, the justice department said.

About 40 of the men have been accounted for, including those killed in the suicide attacks, but 10 remain at large, the Los Angeles Times reported Wednesday night on its website, citing an unidentified source with knowledge of the investigation.

Ashcroft told a news conference at FBI headquarters that they were "reviewing intelligence and had received numerous credible leads."

"We are pursuing those leads aggressively," FBI Director Robert Mueller, on his ninth day on the job, said at the same news conference.

The massive FBI investigation stretched from the Canadian border to Florida, and even reached Germany, where local police, acting

MOST/ A18

TAMA YAN! WALANG MAY GUSTONG MANUOD N'YAN!

Hollywood defers 'terror' movies

LOS ANGELES—Real-life terrorism has led Hollywood executives to postpone at least two movies and consider rescheduling other films and TV shows that involve terrorist plots against Americans.

NBC announced it would push back the start of its new fall TV season, set to begin Monday, at least one week, regardless of a show's

HOLLYWOOD/ A19

New Yorkers start picking up the pieces

NEW YORK—A morgue set up in a Brooks Brothers clothing store received remains a limb at a time.

"It's horrifying. It's like Beirut," said Wilson Franco, a 25-year-old member of the Civil Air Patrol, as he delivered blankets and other supplies.

On one dusty window near the disaster site, a message had been written with a finger: "God Bless the Dead."

There were 82 confirmed fatalities—a number that was sure to grow. Another 1,700 injuries were reported.

In one indication of the potential death toll, Mayor Rudolph Giuliani was asked about a report that the city had requested 6,000 body bags from federal officials.

"Yes, I believe that's correct," the mayor said.

In another, 2,500 people visited on Wednesday a grief counseling center handling questions about missing family members.

While the outlook for finding many survivors was bleak, five victims, three of them police officers, have been pulled from the wreckage alive.

Among the missing were at least 202 firefighters and another 259 uniformed service members believed to have been helping evacuate the towers.

"You know your brothers are in there," said one firefighter. "There's no quitting."

Otherworldly is the spot where the World Trade Center once stood—a hazy landscape of gray dust, splayed girders, paper and boulders of broken concrete.

On Wednesday, flames occasionally punctuated the hellish scene, erupting as debris was removed and air fanned the smoldering wreckage.

"We got a problem with fireballs!" a call crackled over a fire department radio.

Everywhere lay the paperwork of Wall Street—charred expense reports, torn memos, ledger sheets, along with floppy disks. Along with these were ash, blood and a heart-wrenching array of personal belongings.

NEW YORKERS/ A18

Not only Americans are grieving . . .

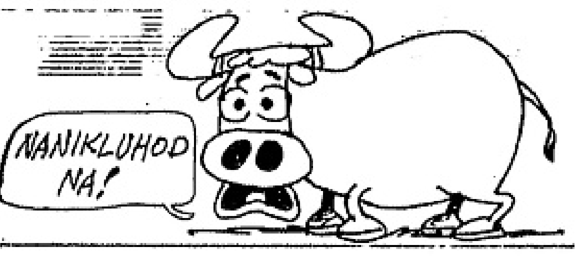
TOKYO—Not only Americans but also other nationals around the globe are awaiting word of whether their kin or colleagues had survived the attack on the World Trade Center, where hundreds, perhaps thousands, of foreigners worked.

Dramatic stories have emerged—an Irishman told of how his brother who worked in the Trade Center towers survived, but his sister on a hijacked plane did not, and a Chinese woman narrated her escape from the inferno, only to see her office building melt like chocolate.

Still, nearly everywhere, people simply hoped for the barest of details.

As is the case with the overall body count, the number of foreigners who are missing re-

NOT/ A20


NANIKLUHOD NA!

ALL SMILE

President Macapagal-Arroyo smiles broadly as she is escorted by Japanese Emperor Akihito and Empress Michiko into the Imperial Palace in Tokyo on the second day of her visit to Japan on Thursday. She arrived Wednesday on a four-day business visit one day after terrorists launched attacks in New York and Washington D.C.
AP

Stay in RP, Gloria asks Japanese

BY STELLA O. GONZALES

TOKYO (via PLDT)—President Macapagal-Arroyo practically begged Japanese businessmen to keep their investments in the Philippines, saying the country was willing to do all it could to protect them and their investments.

"We will do what we need to do… to make you successful and globally competitive because we want you to stay with us," Ms Macapagal said at the end of her speech during a luncheon with the Philippines-Japan Economic Cooperation at the Hotel New Otani here.

"We call on the Japanese companies, especially those already in the Philippines, to be with us as the new government embarks on a journey into the new economy of the new century," she said.

Ms Macapagal's speech was devoted mostly to addressing the reported concerns of Japanese investors who do business in the Philippines.

A BusinessWorld report had said the country was fast losing its competitive edge in attracting Japanese investments and that more investments were heading for China and Thailand instead.

'Second home'

The President said Japanese investors have been in the Philippines for so long, the country has become a "second home" to them.

"You have been there since and we hope you will continue to be there," she said.

Earlier, in apparent recognition of the Philippines' prudent use of Japan's official development assistance (ODA) funds, the Japanese government agreed to fund a Philippine-based joint technical cooperation project that will assist other developing countries.

During a bilateral meeting here yesterday, President Macapagal and Japanese Prime Minister Junichiro Koizumi said the project would be undertaken under the Japan-Philippines Partnership Program.

Ms Macapagal had mentioned to Koizumi during their meeting at the Prime Minister's residence that the Philippines, under her administration, had improved its capacity to utilize the ODA. She said the Philippines had a 94-percent ODA usage.

During the previous administration, Japan and other donor countries had expressed concern about delays in the implementation of ODA-funded projects for various reasons, mostly bureaucratic red tape and a lack of counterpart funding from the Philippines.

The Philippines is the third largest recipient of Japan's ODA, next only to China and Indonesia. In 1999 alone, Japan's ODA to the country amounted to $412.98 million.

While not strictly an ODA project, the planned Japan-Philippine technical cooperation project could be considered an indication of Japan's belief in the Philippines' capacity to handle such forms of assistance, a Malacañang official said.

New concepts

Under the project, Japan will fund a training center based in Manila that will, among other things, pay Filipinos to teach new concepts to a third country. One of the concepts being proposed is a human resources development program for East Timor.

Also yesterday, the President and First Gentleman Jose Miguel Arroyo paid a courtesy call on Japanese Emperor Akihito and Empress Michiko at the Imperial Palace. The private audience with the Japanese royal couple lasted 30 minutes.

It was the third official meeting between Ms Macapagal and the Imperial Majesties.

They first met when Akihito and Michiko, who were then the Crown Prince and Princess, visited the Philippines during the presidency of Ms Macapagal's father, Diosdado Macapagal.

Their second meeting was in 1999 when Ms Macapagal, then vice president, visited Japan with her mother, Eva.

The President told the Japanese businessmen at the luncheon that her government provides investors with "stable rules of investment."

"The executive branch of government consistently interprets investment laws in favor of the investor," she told them.

She said that although Philippine courts, just like Japanese courts, are independent of the executive branch, "whenever the solicitor general can get involved in a commercial litigation, he consistently takes the position of providing consistency of rules in favor of the investor."

Sales pitch

Not even Japan's fast-aging population was spared from the President's sales pitch.

Ms Macapagal noted that by 2025, more than one-quarter of Japan's population would be above 65 years old, while about 90 percent of the Philippine population would still be below 65.

She said the younger Philippine population, given the right training (that could be provided by the Japanese themselves) could take care of the elderly Japanese.

Her comment elicited chuckles from the audience.

Ms Macapagal said the Philippine government was doing all it could to stop kidnap for ransom gangs and neutralize extremist groups. News reports had said one principal concern of Japanese businessmen in the Philippines was law and order.

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Saguisag thrown out of Sandigan

SANDIGANBAYAN justices erupted in anger during the scheduled signing of the pre-trial order in the plunder case against ousted President Joseph Estrada yesterday, the upshot of which was the expulsion of lead defense counsel Rene Saguisag from the courtroom.

In the end, Estrada and his co-accused, Jinggoy, refused to sign the pre-trial order, forcing the court to terminate the pre-trial and rule that the trial proper would commence on Oct. 1.

The heated exchange between Estrada's lawyers and the justices of the 3rd Division concerned the pre-trial order containing the stipulation of facts and other written points of agreement between the defense and the prosecution on the exhibits to be marked.

Defense lawyer Serafin Cuevas argued that Estrada could not be compelled to sign the pre-trial order that he had not seen or been given sufficient time to study.

Justice Teresita de Castro questioned Cuevas for raising the issue and accused him of doing so as a "completely dilatory tactic."

She said the pretrial order merely contained what the defense and prosecution had agreed on, "we did not add or subtract anything."

It was in the middle of this exchange that Saguisag, claiming to be the head defense lawyer, stood up and demanded a copy of the 30-page pre-trial order.

But De Castro cut him off, banged the gavel and told him to stop talking.

When Saguisag continued to talk, the justice ordered the guards to take him out of the courtroom for disorderly conduct.

But Saguisag persisted, addressing his plea to Justice Anacleto Badoy, the chair of the 3rd Division, who however seconded De Castro's order.

After Saguisag was escorted by guards out of the courtroom, the court suspended the session for a few minutes. When it resumed, the court gave the defense one hour to study the pre-trial order, expecting Estrada, Jinggoy and the third co-accused, lawyer Edward Serapio, to sign the order.

But Estrada, Jinggoy and Serapio refused to sign the pre-trial order.

Before leaving the courtroom, Estrada said he could no longer expect a fair trial from the 3rd Division.

He said he was "shocked" by what happened.

Saguisag said he could not understand why the court would react the way it did to his request for a copy of the pre-trial order.

"There is a total denial of due process," he claimed, adding he might not appear before the 3rd Division anymore.

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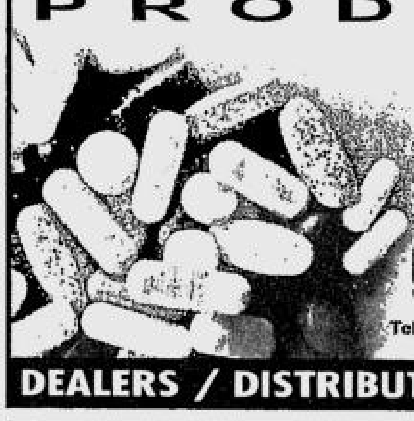

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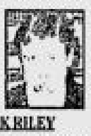

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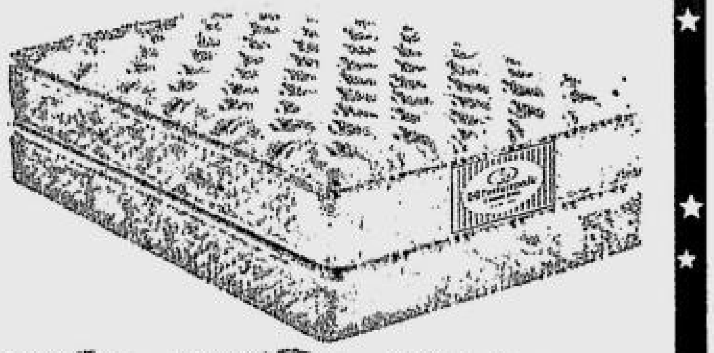

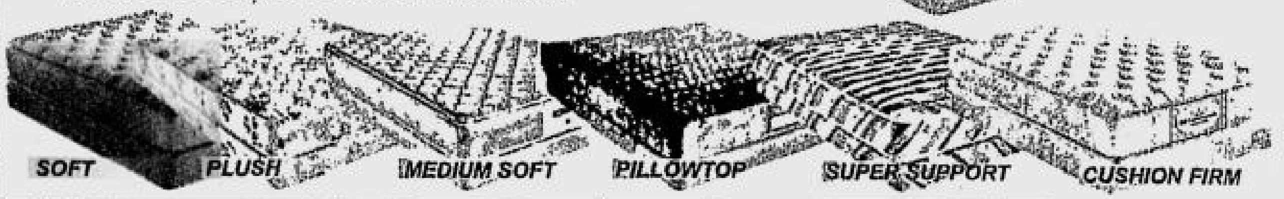

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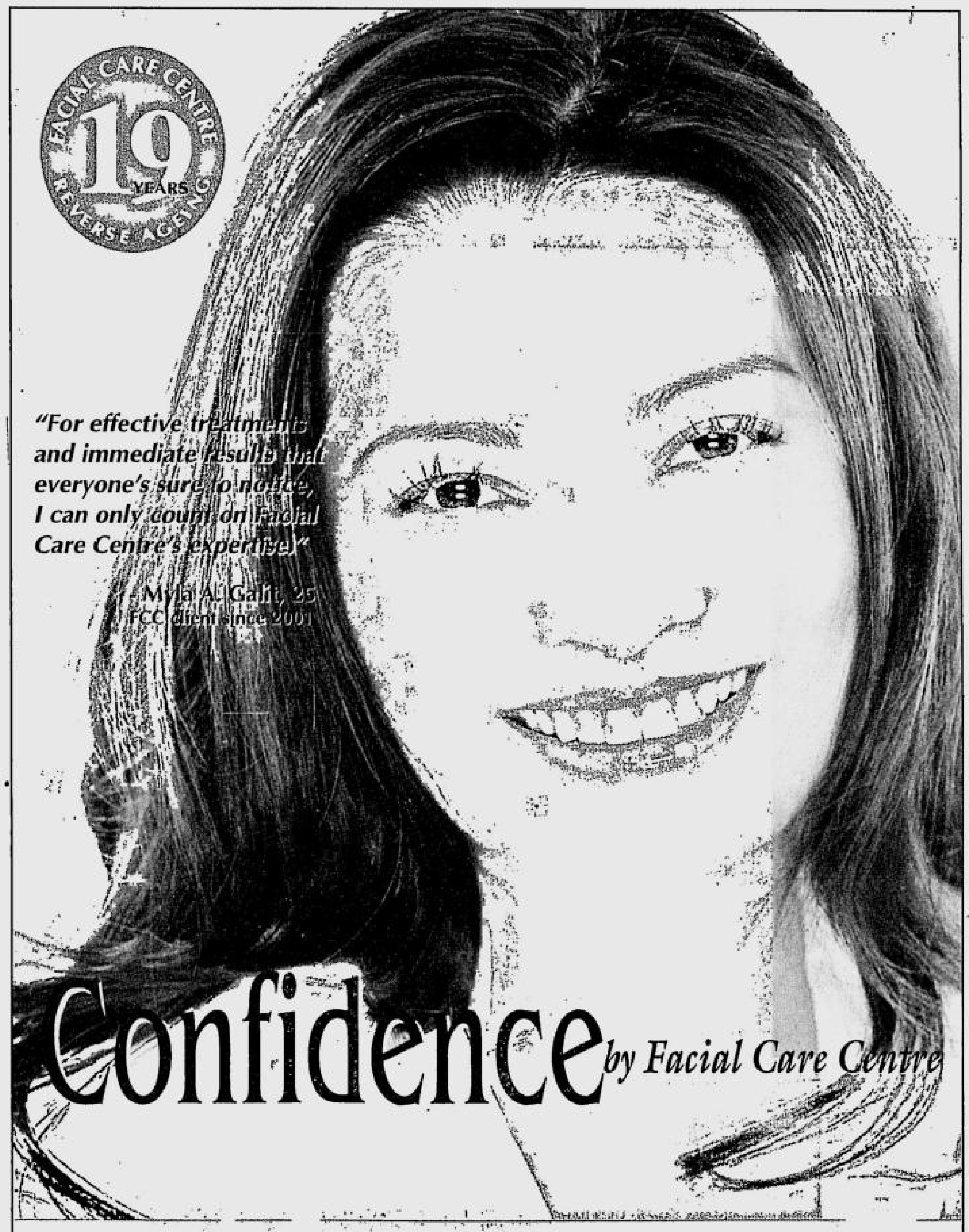

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Noynoy questions AFP fuel deal with Petron

AQUINO

REP. Benigno "Noynoy" Aquino III has questioned the decision of the Department of National Defense to purchase the fuel requirement of the Armed Forces from just one oil company when it can save millions of pesos by bidding it out to all oil companies.

Aquino raised the question during the recent budget hearings of the defense department at the House of Representatives, which is now deliberating the P780.8 billion national budget for the year 2002. The proposed appropriation for the DND for next year is P69.6 billion.

The hearing was attended by top defense and military officials headed by Defense Secretary Angelo Reyes, Armed Forces chief of staff Gen. Diomedio Villanueva and the other service commanders of the AFP.

The Tarlac congressman said that even for a P150,000 barangay project, at least three contractors are required to bid. "How come a contract worth P1.7 billion of fuel is negotiated only with one supplier?" he said.

Aquino said the government would save millions of pesos by not relying on Petron to corner its fuel supply contract. Last year alone, the AFP purchased an estimated P1.7 billion from Petron based on an old purchase contract.

The defense officials said the military purchased all of its fuel requirements from Petron because of an old policy that required all government agencies to buy their fuel supply from the government-owned/controlled Petron.

Until 1994, Petron was fully owned and controlled by the government. It supplied virtually all the fuel requirements of most government entities, including the defense department and the Armed Forces.

However, in September 1994, Petron was privatized with the government retaining only 40 percent of its ownership. In 1997, the oil industry was deregulated and new companies were allowed to join. Today, there are almost 50 new companies in the industry, the biggest among which is Total, which is now considered to be in the same league as the Big Three—Shell, Caltex and Petron.

Despite the privatization, and the deregulation of the oil industry, the AFP continued to favor Petron to supply all its fuel requirements. The supply contract between the AFP and Petron was simply renewed or extended without taking into account what prices the other oil companies may have to offer.

Aquino said the DND and the AFP were more likely to obtain lower prices for their fuel requirements if they open the supply contract for bidding by all the players in the industry.

Last year alone, Petron supplied the defense and military establishment an estimated P1.7 billion worth of fuel. Had the DND canvassed for a better price through open bidding, it would have cut by 5 to 10 percent the price of its fuel requirements. This would mean millions of pesos in savings for the government, Aquino said.

"This amount is worth considering before a decision is made to renew or extend the contract with Petron," Aquino said.

The Tarlac congressman said the DND should take the cue from the National Power Corp., the state-owned power agency. When Petron was privatized in 1994, Napocor decided to bid out its fuel requirements and managed to save millions of pesos. Now, the Napocor purchases only 50 percent of its fuel requirements from Petron. The rest is supplied by other oil companies.

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Missing bank manager faces plunder raps

THE OFFICE of the Ombudsman has filed plunder charges against a Land Bank of the Philippines branch manager in connection with last year's loss of P85 million in funds deposited by the National Electrification Administration.

Ombudsman Prosecutor Marilou Ancheta-Mejica filed the charges against Pablito Calayag y Tayao, former branch manager of the LBP North Avenue branch in Quezon City. Also charged with plunder was his alleged accomplice, Salvador Mauricio.

LBP document verifier Ma. Theresa Flores-Virata and cashier Evangeline Garcia were charged with graft.

In the information filed by Prosecutor Ancheta-Mejica, Calayag and his fellow respondents allegedly conspired to withdraw some P85 million deposited in March last year in the North Avenue branch by the NEA. The deposit was made by former NFA Administrator and now Pangasinan Rep. Manuel Luis Sanchez.

The deposit represented the bid bonds put up by the bidders in a NEA project. According to investigations made by the National Bureau of Investigation and the Ombudsman, Calayag allegedly forged the signatures of former NEA administrators Sanchez and Conrad Estrella III and used his authority as branch manager to allow withdrawals of the funds by Mauricio.

The NBI investigation showed that the signatures of the NEA officials in the withdrawal slips were obvious forgeries, and that there was no evidence of collusion between the LBP and NEA officials. This led investigators to conclude that Mauricio was actually a dummy of Calayag.

The former LBP branch manager went on leave before the withdrawals were detected by the NEA in May, and is now believed to be hiding abroad.

Following the discovery of the loss, the NEA led by Estrella and Sanchez demanded the reimbursement of the funds by LBP. The LBP board voted to honor its commitment to the NEA, but called in the NBI to investigate since the reimbursement represented a significant loss to the government.

Prosecutor Ancheta-Mejica said Sanchez was also liable for negligence in relation to the incident, but the NEA official has filed a motion for reinvestigation, since he had made the deposit with LBP in good faith.

The case is expected to be raffled off sometime this week, with Calayag and Mauricio to undergo trial in absentia.

War vet Narca, 77

WORLD War II veteran Aniceto R. Narca died on Tuesday at the Veterans Memorial Medical Center. He was 77.

His remains now lie at the mortuary of St. Anthony Parish Church of Singalong, Manila, and will be interred tomorrow at the Libingan ng mga Bayani in Fort Bonifacio, Makati City. He is survived by his wife Anunciacion Judit Enrile and children. Relatives and friends may contact the family through tel. Nos. 303-9691.

Narca had served the government through the Philippine Veterans Affairs Office (PVAO) where he rose from the ranks from a mere investigator of veteran-claimants to director of PVAO's Region X covering the Misamis provinces, Bukidnon and Camiguin.

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SC nixes anew live coverage of Erap trial

By Michael Lim Ubac

THE SUPREME Court has rejected anew a petition from the justice department and the Kapisanan ng mga Brodkaster sa Pilipinas to allow the live broadcast of the Sandiganbayan trial of ousted President Joseph Estrada.

Instead of live television and radio coverage, the high court resolved yesterday "to order the audio-visual recording of the trial for documentary purposes."

"The recordings will not be for live or real-time broadcast but for documentary purposes. Only later will they be available for public showing after the Sandiganbayan shall have promulgated its decision in every case to which the recording pertains," the SC said in a 9-page resolution promulgated yesterday.

Estrada is facing four charges—for plunder, perjury, use of illegal alias and graft—before the anti-graft court.

9-6 vote

Voting 9-6, the high court denied for the second time the DOJ and KBP's petition, saying it found no reason to alter or in any way modify its decision on June 29.

"The court has considered the arguments of the parties on this important issue and, after due deliberation, finds no reason to alter or in any way modify its decision prohibiting live or real- time broadcast," the SC said.

Justice Secretary Hernando Perez yesterday said he would file a new motion for reconsideration, but it was not clear if the high court would allow it.

The SC does not entertain a second motion for reconsideration, except in special cases.

Those who voted to junk the motion anew were Associate Justices Jose Vitug, Santiago Kapunan, Vicente Mendoza, Bernardo Pardo, Arturo Buena, Minerva Gonzaga-Reyes, Consuelo Ynarez-Santiago, Sabino de Leon and Angelina Sandoval.

Those who voted to grant a reconsideration were Chief Justice Hilario Davide Jr. and Justices Josue Bellosillo, Melo, Reynato Puno, Artemio Panganiban and Leonardo Quisumbing.

People's right

Perez said in his motion that the high court should uphold the people's right to information.

"If there is a clash between these rights, it must be resolved in favor of the right of the people and the press because the people, as the repository of sovereignty, are entitled to information; and that live media coverage is a safeguard against attempts by any party to use the courts as instruments for the pursuit of selfish interests," Perez said.

In its earlier ruling, the high court said the live media coverage of Estrada's trial might jeopardize his right and that of the other accused to a fair trial.

Estrada claimed that it would violate the *sub judice* rule and "that, based on his experience with the impeachment trial, live media coverage will only pave the way for so-called 'expert commentary' which can trigger massive demonstrations aimed at pressuring the Sandiganbayan to render a decision one way or the other."

Under the *sub judice* rule, cases under consideration by a court may not be discussed on television or radio, or in the newspapers.

But Mendoza, who penned the SC resolution, said eight of the 15 justices agreed that an audio-visual recording was important to preserve the records of the proceedings "considering the significance of the trial."

Historic trial

He said the hearings were of historic significance.

"They are an affirmation of our commitment to the rule that 'the King is under no man, but he is under God and law,'" he stressed.

The master copy of the film was ordered deposited at the National Museum and the Records Management and Archives Office for historical preservation and exhibition.

The audio-visual recording of the trial would also be made subject to six conditions, among them:

- The trial is to be recorded in its entirety, excepting for those portions that the Sandiganbayan deems should not be held public under Rule 119, Section 21 of the Rules of Criminal Procedure.
- Cameras are to be installed inconspicuously inside the courtroom and the movement of television crew is to be regulated consistent with the dignity and solemnity of the proceedings.
- The audio-visual recordings will be made without comment except when annotations of scenes would be needed to explain them.

To ensure that the conditions stipulated by the SC are followed, the recording is to be supervised and placed under the Sandiganbayan or its designated division.

Lawyer says Janjalani was framed

THE PRE-TRIAL of the brother of the founder of the Abu Sayyaf bandit group resumed at a Manila regional trial court yesterday, with his lawyer insisting that the drug and gun possession charges against Hector Janjalani had been fabricated.

Lawyer Fidel Macauyag said Janjalani was supposed to be meeting a staffer from the office of presidential adviser Robert Aventajado Jr. at the Robinson's Place in Ermita, Manila, on Dec. 16, 2000 when police arrested him.

He said Janjalani had come to Manila to obtain a "safe conduct pass" so he could help in the hostage negotiations on the advice of Aventajado, who was the principal negotiator in the hostage crisis last year.

The police said Janjalani was carrying a videotape of one of the hostages, Jeffrey Schilling, which Janjalani reportedly planned to sell to a foreign television network.

Schilling was released early this year after being held for more than eight months.

Macauyag claimed that a rifle grenade and the drugs had been "planted" on his client at Camp Crame, with the police later claimed to have found in his hotel.

The lawyer also accused the policemen of arresting Janjalani without an arrest warrant.

The lawyer also demanded that his client be subjected to a drug test. He said it would show that his client was not a drug user.

He said that Hector, unlike his brothers Khadaffy and Abduraja, was not a member of the Abu Sayyaf.

Judge Leonardo Reyes has set the next trial days for Oct. 9 and 23.

Janjalani, who is being detained at the Metro Manila Rehabilitation Center in Taguig, is also facing kidnapping charges originally filed in Zamboanga City. *Jerome Aning*

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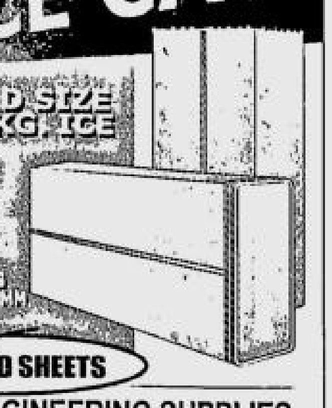

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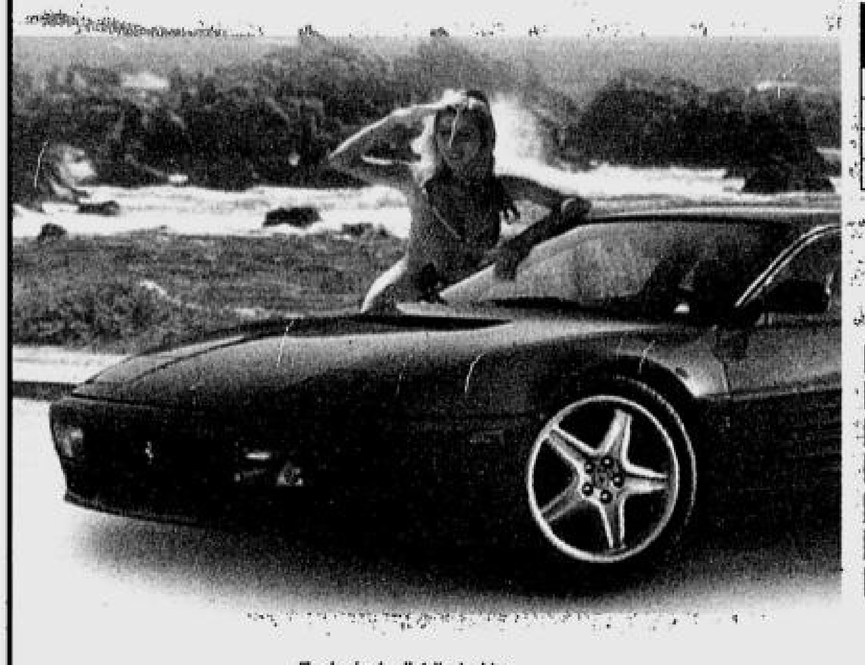

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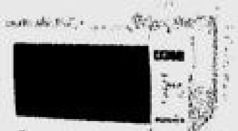

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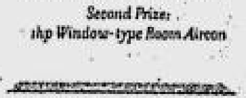

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US-bound travelers still stranded

BY TJ BURGONIO

HUNDREDS of US-bound passengers remain stranded in Manila after flights to the American mainland and Guam were cancelled for the second day yesterday.

Philippine Airlines, Northwest Airlines and Continental Micronesia cancelled anew their scheduled flights to the US after the Federal Aviation Authority (FAA) extended the moratorium on incoming flights.

The three airlines hope to resume operations on Saturday.

The FAA ordered the immediate closure of airports across the US Tuesday after three hijacked commercial planes slammed into the World Trade Center in New York City and the Pentagon in Washington D.C. in the worst yet terrorist attack on the US.

A fourth hijacked aircraft crashed in a field near Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania.

Some Filipino passengers, who trooped to airline offices at the Ninoy Aquino International Airport yesterday, were upset by the cancellation of their flights.

"When will the bombings end in the US?" a visibly dismayed middle-aged woman bound for Los Angeles asked, as she left the Northwest Airline office at the Naia.

"They said they were going to resume flights today. Why did they cancel it at the last minute?" added another woman, angry that her Northwest Airlines flight to Los Angeles had been cancelled.

PAL and Northwest had announced they were resuming their flights yesterday.

Instead, PAL canceled its six flights, including two extra flights to San Francisco, Los Angeles and Vancouver, Canada. The US-based Northwest also cancelled its three regular flights to Los Angeles, San Francisco and Detroit.

Between 190 to 280 Filipino passengers had been booked on each of the PAL and Northwest flights.

Guam-based Continental Micronesia, on the other hand, canceled its lone flight to Guam, CO912, which had 130 passengers.

On Wednesday, the airline canceled its two flights to Guam and one flight to Koror, an island in Micronesia, which had a total of 183 passengers.

Naia tightens watch on pilots, crew

IMMIGRATION authorities at the Ninoy Aquino International Airport yesterday began requiring pilots and crewmembers of foreign airlines to present their travel documents for inspection in the wake of the terrorist attacks on the US which used commercial aircraft.

Immigration Commissioner Andrea Domingo, ordered "a crew lane" opened at the Naia arrival section specifically for the purpose.

The immigration bureau's move was aimed at tightening the watch for terrorists, in the wake of reports trained pilots may have been at the controls of the aircraft that attacked US targets, said Tom Natividad, immigration special assistant on intelligence.

"We have to make sure no terrorist slips into the country," he said.

Uniformed airline crewmembers used to be able to breeze through immigration at the Naia and were not required to present their travel documents.

Security in and around the Naia itself was further tightened after general manager Edgardo Manda ordered the rigid frisking of passengers and the thorough inspection of their cars and baggage, as well as a temporary halt to the issuance of access passes to the terminals.

Police and government officials have voiced concern that the country could be a target of terrorists since it is allied with the US and suspected international terrorist Osama bin Laden has been linked to the local Muslim insurgency.

Bin Laden, who was accused of being behind the bombing of two US embassies in Africa in 1998 and the USS Cole last year, is believed to be behind the air attacks on the World Trade Center in New York City and the Pentagon in Washington DC. *TJ Burgonio*

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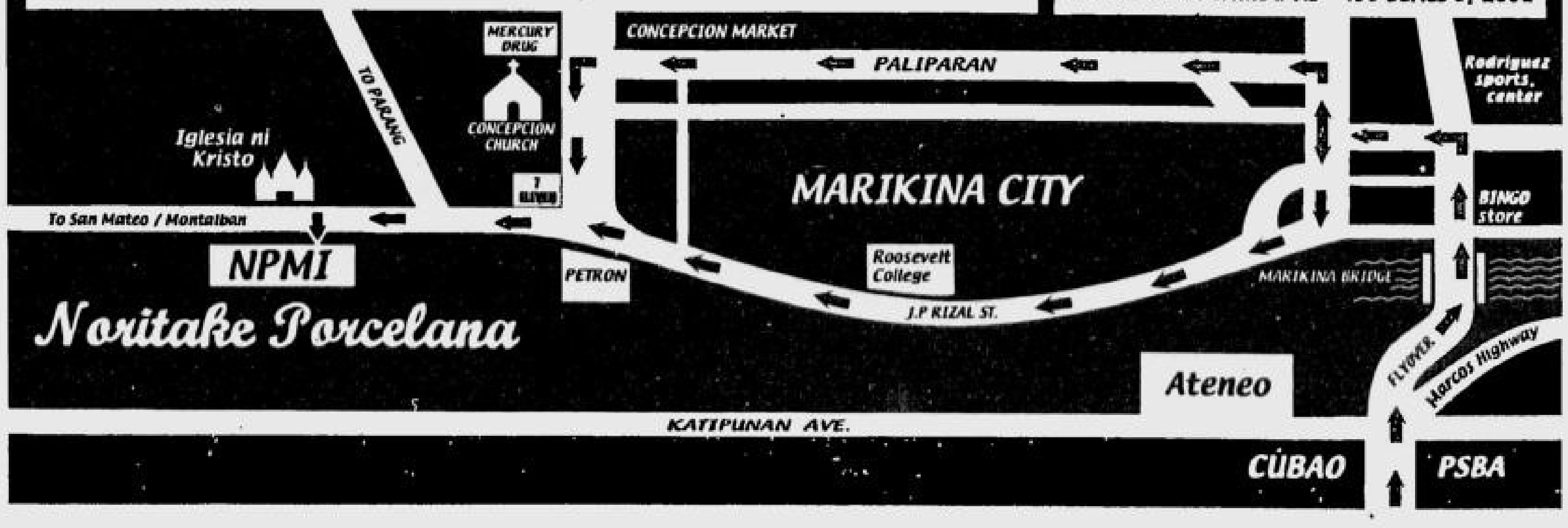

RP backs war against terror

By Juliet L. Javellana
Martin P. Marfil
and Rocky Nazareno

THE PHILIPPINES yesterday threw its full support behind the war against terrorism that the United States is expected to wage against the perpetrators of the air attacks on the World Trade Center and the Pentagon.

"The President today expressed her full and unqualified support for the international coalition to be spearheaded by the United States (against) global terrorism," presidential spokesperson Rigoberto Tiglao said in a news briefing at Malacañang.

US President George W. Bush has been calling on world leaders to enlist their support for a global campaign against terrorism, even as the US Congress is contemplating issuing a declaration of war against those responsible for the attacks.

The Non-Aligned Treaty Organization (Nato) has passed a resolution expressing willingness to support the US militarily in its actions against terrorists.

'Barbaric actions'

In giving her support, the President, who is in Japan, said the "terrorist attacks" and "barbaric actions" were not only directed against the US but were "aimed at the heart of the civilized world."

"We will extend all the support we can in the international coalition's war against terrorism," the President said.

Vice President and Foreign Secretary Teofisto Guingona Jr. said, however, it was premature to say if the Philippines would be sending soldiers.

"In the war against terrorism, the first (thing needed) is moral support actually. We are not expected (to send forces). We have very limited military and logistical resources fighting our own terrorists here," Guingona said.

Tiglao said the use of Philippine airports as transit points for the possible evacuation of Americans and the refueling of US planes has been "formalized."

He said a request to this effect had been relayed by the American government through National Security Adviser Roilo Golez.

Golez refused to talk about the request except to say that Tiglao was "part of the security loop" that is aware of information relevant to the American situation.

"It's been formalized. It's like a contingency plan that if American nationals are put on chartered planes, those planes could use our airports as transit points," Tiglao said.

Terrorist Watch

Malacañang yesterday created a new group called "Terrorist Watch" which aims to deny entry to the country to suspected terrorists.

At the same time, the Palace is mulling over the idea of deploying "air marshals" on domestic flights.

This was revealed by Golez who said the US and Philippine governments have been actively sharing intelligence information on terrorists.

"The US government is concerned that there may be other attacks in other parts of the world," Golez said.

"We have set up a Terrorist Watch to be overseen by the executive secretary," he said.

The group would have as members the National Intelligence Coordinating Agency or Nica, the Bureau of Customs, the Aviation Security Group, Coast Guard, and the Bureau of Immigration.

"We are looking at the possibility of placing air marshals in planes through the Aviation Security Group," Golez said.

Manila is safe

For now, Golez said Metro Manila is "safe" as Task Force Libra with several battalions has been assigned to protect the metropolis.

Both the Philippine National Police and the Armed Forces of the Philippines are also on red alert, he said.

For his part, House Speaker Jose de Venecia said that, once and for all, world leaders should unite in a more vigorous campaign against global terrorism.

De Venecia called on heads of state from Asia and the G8 countries to create a "powerful anti-terrorist coalition in a multinational, transnational effort to curb terrorism."

"We must underscore the urgency of this proposal, particularly in the wake of this barbaric attack against innocent lives in New York and Washington," De Venecia said yesterday in a press conference.

Global task force

Bukidnon Rep. Juan Miguel Zubiri has filed a resolution seeking an endorsement from the House to give President Macapagal the power to negotiate with other countries in creating a "global anti-terrorism task force."

"We should skirt all the bureaucratic obstacles to pave the way for the formation of this task force," Zubiri said.

De Venecia said the super body could be created "at the United Nations level."

"Should this take too long, we could do it outside the aegis of the UN but with its support and endorsement," he said.

De Venecia cited a contribution made by Philippine law enforcement authorities who had uncovered, as early as 1995, a terrorist plan to hijack US commercial plaines and slam these into strategic US targets.

The plan was discovered when the Presidential Security Group under Chief Supt. Avelino Razon raided a Manila apartment and arrested Islamic fundamentalists Ramzi Zhmed Yousef and Abdul Hakim Murad who had plotted the 1993 bombing of the World Trade Center and an attack on Pope John Paul II during his 1995 visit to the Philippines.

Ping's bugs

"This is a perfect example of the kind of contribution each of the countries could make to the multi-nation task force," De Venecia said.

From Los Angeles where he is on vacation, Sen. Panfilo Lacson said the terrorist attacks against the US should provide the Philippine Congress with a compelling reason to prioritize the antiterrorism bill he has filed.

In a statement, Lacson warned that Congress might find itself accused of being remiss in its duties if it failed to enact the bill into law.

Lacson revived an old bill submitted by former Sen. Juan Ponce Enrile allowing the use of electronic surveillance to flush out terrorists in the country.

Aside from wiretapping and the use of electronic spying equipment, Lacson's bill would allow law enforcers to examine a suspect's bank accounts and other holdings, "provided this is done under rigid judicial procedures and safeguards."

Interestingly, Lacson himself has been accused of illegally eavesdropping on his enemies and stashing millions of dollars abroad in proceeds from alleged criminal activities. *With Cathy C. Yamsuan and Philip C. Tubeza*

Abu Sayyaf links with US terrorists probed

TOKYO (via PLDT)—President Macapagal-Arroyo yesterday told the Japanese press the Philippines was looking into a possible connection between the Abu Sayyaf bandit group and the attack on the World Trade Center in New York and the Pentagon in Washington DC.

"It is still too early to say," Ms Macapagal said during a roundtable interview with major Japanese newspapers during the second day of her four-day official working visit here.

But, she said, an investigation was ongoing.

"There are some traces of a relationship, there are some angles we are looking at," she said.

Ms Macapagal and Japanese Prime Minister Junichiro Koizumi issued a joint statement yesterday condemning the terrorist attack on the United States.

The two leaders issued the statement following their bilateral meeting at the Prime Minister's residence.

Ms Macapagal and Koizumi expressed their readiness to extend any form of assistance to America and reiterated their determination to combat terrorism by intensifying cooperation with the United States and the international community.

The Abu Sayyaf, an offshoot of the separatist Moro Islamic Liberation Front, has been accused of committing acts of terrorism against foreign and local tourists and others.

Its leaders are believed to have trained in Afghanistan under Osama bin Laden, who is the chief suspect in the attacks on the US. Bin Laden is also believed to financially support the homegrown terrorist group. *Stella Gonzales*

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Miscalculation

EDITORIAL

ONLY twisted minds could have taken perverse pleasure in the carnage brought about by the suicide plane attacks in the United States last Tuesday. But there they were, thousands of Palestinians on the West Bank, in Lebanon and elsewhere distributing candies, firing guns into the air and chanting "Allah is great" in joyful celebration as the twin towers of the World Trade Center in New York and the Pentagon building in Washington, D.C. smoldered. "The great power that once sowed terror throughout the world was yesterday terrified, thrown into panic and humiliated," Iraq's official newspaper gloated. The government of President Saddam Hussein agreed, issuing an official statement saying that "the American cowboys are reaping the fruit of their crimes against humanity."

It is the Iraqis and the Palestinians that are likely to reap the fruit of their inhumanity. Such disgusting demonstrations of extreme insensitivity can hardly win them sympathy. They can only isolate them further from the rest of the international community.

The Palestinians should have taken the cue from their leader, Yasser Arafat. "We are completely shocked. It's unbelievable," Arafat said as he donated blood and offered his sympathy to the Americans. The masterminds of this outrage themselves seem stunned by the devastation they have wrought or afraid of its consequences. They have yet to come forward to claim responsibility for the massacre of thousands of innocent civilians. Even Libyan leader Moammar Gadhafi, who has been known to shield terrorists and sponsor terrorism, described the attacks as "horrifying" and asked Muslim aid agencies to help "regardless of political considerations or differences between America and the peoples of the world."

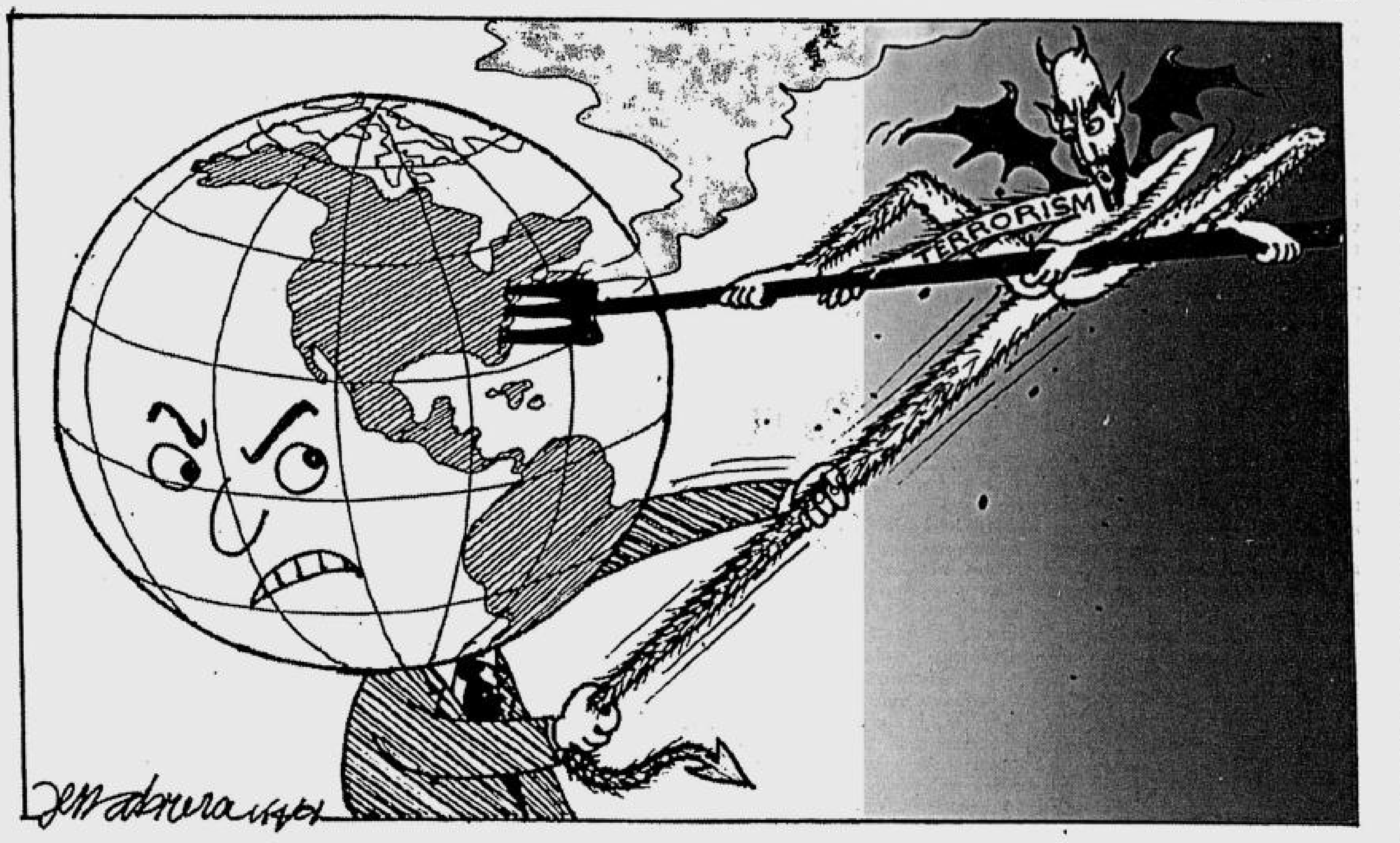
That's about the only rational response to such a terrible tragedy expected of anybody who claims to be member of the human family. Mindless violence of this magnitude should not only fill all of humanity with a shared horror and revulsion, it should also bring them together in a common grief and unite them in a common resolve to ensure that it will never happen again. More so because while the targets were America's symbols of military supremacy and economic dominance, the victims were most likely to be representative of New York's multi-ethnic immigrant community.

No one knows how many perished in the concerted attacks, and perhaps their exact number will never be known. Rescue workers in New York have asked for 6,000 body bags, and the number is expected to go much higher, given that some 50,000 workers were said to work at the World Trade Center. And when all the bodies are counted, their number will be "more than we can bear," as New York City Mayor Rudolf Guiliani put it.

It would be a miracle if Filipinos are not among the dead. Filipino workers, who were able to dash out of the twin towers before they crumbled, said the World Trade Center had Filipinos on every floor, working as waiters, office employees or executives. Most of them went to New York to pursue the American dream. Now their families will have to live with Tuesday's nightmare.

This will be true of many families not only in the United States but in many places around the globe. The World Trade Center housed 430 companies, representing 26 different countries. And New York is home to many more nationalities.

If for this reason alone, the terrorists may have made a gross miscalculation. In unleashing such an unspeakable destruction, they blew up any chance of winning support for whatever cause they may be fighting for. The war on America became a war against almost all nations. America's grief is now humanity's grief. When it goes after the perpetrators of this outrage and their patrons, America can count on the encouragement and help of many nations.



The trouble with tall buildings

AS I SEE IT

Neal H. Cruz

THERE are many quick lessons we can learn from the terrorist attacks on American landmarks.

One is not to construct buildings too high. The sky is already crowded with airplanes; don't crowd it further with towers. If you're on the top floors, you feel like you're "on top of the world," but you have to watch out, not for wayward trucks anymore, but for wayward airplanes such as those that crashed into the World Trade Center in New York.

True, tall buildings maximize the use of very expensive real estate, but it is also due to the pride and vanity of the owners, the architect and the engineers. They want to construct the "tallest building in the world." The World Trade Center's twin towers used to be the tallest building in New York. Not anymore. The honor goes back to the much older Empire State Building on Fifth Avenue, which not even the mighty King Kong could destroy. The tallest building in America is the Sears Tower in Chicago, and the tallest building in the world is the Petronas Twin Towers in Kuala Lumpur. Note that these towers were evacuated after the attack on the World Trade Center. When a building is too high, it attracts attention, becomes a symbol of the country, and invites attack.

Don't make the building too big, either, like the Pentagon, the biggest in the world, with 17 miles of corridors alone. (Imagine how hard it would be to look for an office or a bureaucrat there.) It makes an easy target even for amateur pilots.

The WTC was chosen as a target because it is not only the tallest building in New York but it is also the symbol of America's economic domination of the world; the Pentagon was targeted because it is the symbol of America's military might. Think of the propaganda value. The world's superpower, militarily and economically, helpless before a small band of unknown "freedom fighters"—for that is what terrorists like to call themselves.

Which means don't climb the Statue of Liberty at this time. That is a symbol of America and it invites attack. What probably saved it at this time is the fact that there are not as many people inside it as there are in the WTC. *Sayang naman* to waste one jetliner and a number of hijackers on so few victims, many of whom are most likely foreign tourists.

It is not often that airplanes crash into tall buildings, but fires and earthquakes occur quite often. When they do it is difficult and time-consuming to evacuate the tall buildings. Fire ladders can't reach the top floors. And when occupants choose to jump from windows in desperation, they jump to certain death. If the building were lower, at least they would have a fighting chance. Have you ever heard of a person who died after jumping from the window of a nipa hut?

Towers, penthouses, highrises, you can have them. I'd rather live in a lowly cottage or bungalow.

* * *

How could such a thing happen to the mighty United States? How did the terrorists get past them. The planning and preparation for the coordinated attacks must have taken a long time and involved a lot of people. What happened to the Central Intelligence Agency and the Federal Bureau of Investigation? How could the plot have escaped their army of spies?

You'd think they would have learned after the first bombing of the WTC and the US military barracks in the Middle East. Were the terrorists just too clever or the Americans too confident and too arrogant to think that somebody could outwit them? As observers commented, it was like history repeating itself, it was like a repetition of the surprise attack on Pearl Harbor in 1941. Did the United States learn a lesson from Pearl Harbor? Obviously, it did not.

* * *

I think Filipinos survive calamities because of their sense of humor. The terrorist attacks on the United States are no laughing matter, but Filipinos still manage to tell jokes at coffee shops.

Don't you find it strange that when Sen. Panfilo Lacson went to the United States, that was the time when the terrorist attacks took place? Did he have something to do with it or is he just *malas* wherever he goes?

Until now, the United States doesn't know who masterminded the attacks. It was a masterstroke.

And any terrorist would be proud to have done it. But no one has come out to claim credit for it. Even Osama Bin Laden, the principal suspect, claims he "has nothing to do with it."

To help, the Philippine Senate offered to investigate. But the United States immediately turned down the offer. If the Philippine Senate does it, the United States said, the investigation will never be finished.

But the Senate already has witnesses to identify the mastermind: Who are they? Ador and Rosebud, of course.

Who is the mastermind, according to them? Who else but Lacson.

* * *

Enough with jokes; let's get serious.

Arab-looking people residing in America are in very real danger from white or black Americans. There will be a backlash against people coming from the Middle East as some white hotheads try to avenge the terrorist attacks. Cabbies are particularly vulnerable. Ghettos peopled by Middle Eastern immigrants are in danger of attacks and looting by hooligans.

Let's hope American leaders are able to calm the anger of their people.

* * *

Kapihan Notes: Let's go back to terrorism in the Philippines, I mean that committed by members of the House of Representatives on business firms and on one another. That will be the subject of next Monday's Kapihan sa Manila forum. It will be terrorists versus terrorists. It will be the "Gang of Five" versus the "Call Boys" of the House. It promises to be a slam-bang *bakbakan*.

In this corner will be Representatives Butch Pichay and Dong Saludo of the "Gang of Five." In the opposite corner will be Representatives Neptali Gonzales Jr. and Francis Escudero of the "Call Boys." This will be a no-holds-barred fight between gangs of terrorists. Don't miss it.

Elegy

THERE'S THE RUB

Conrado de Quiros

I BEGAN this column writing about the disturbing martial rhetoric of the White House, Capitol Hill and Nato, but changed my mind after hearing a question a very intelligent news anchor—a woman of course—asked a correspondent in London, also very intelligent, also a woman. Quite apart from the stuff that was coming out of official circles and even from the British media, she asked, what was the reaction to the attack on New York from the people in the street? Indeed, she said, from the more human, rather than political, aspect of things, how did Londoners feel about the devastation suffered by New York?

The correspondent gave a good accounting of the shock and revulsion of the average Queen's subject to the event. Having themselves been prey to terrorist attacks from the Irish Republican Army, indeed having seen over the years the monstrous toll such attacks took on the civilian population, Londoners, the correspondent said, could understand in a way how Americans must feel at that point. Even if their own tragedies clearly paled beside the scale of the one that just visited New York.

The brief exchange made me decide to put off remarks about the other aspects of this event. True enough, the human dimensions of this tragedy came first, demanding jealous attention. I decided not to trivialize the depth of that tragedy by blithe commentary about the political fallout from the attacks. That can come later. If you cannot feel about this first, you will never be able to think right about it. I decided to just let the disjointed sounds and images speak for themselves. Or speak to me, whichever came first.

One cameraman who rushed to the spot shortly after the first plane slammed into the northern tower of the World Trade Center caught the mood of New York, of America, and probably of the world, in the immediate aftermath of the attack. After the shouts and moans of horror, disbelief and anguish, after the rush of terror and panic as the towers melted and crumpled to the ground sending balls of smoke bursting into the streets below, came the sense of disorientation, the sense of being caught between sleep and wakefulness, the sense of not knowing where to go.

Cars had piled up on the Brooklyn Bridge as people rushed to get away from the horrific scene, but quite eerily it was quiet as a Sunday evening. No one was honking his horn. The pall of dust had turned day into dusk, the grayness of the horizon in stark contrast to the blue sky and birds gliding by the water. Several people had gathered by a railing on the bridge still looking at lower Manhattan, a slight frown on their otherwise blank faces, as though puzzled by something wrong with the picture. They were looking at the spot of air where the World Trade Center Tower had been and where smoke now drifted lazily to the river. They clutched their bags and suitcases, not knowing whether they were coming or going, not knowing where to turn, not knowing where they were.

The spot of earth itself where the World Trade Center had stood when the camera finally burst in on it was just one huge jumbled pile of wreckage, of twisted steel, broken glass and pulverized concrete. Dust was all around, much of it clinging tenaciously to the air and suffusing the scene with a dark haze. It was as if, commented the cameraman, a volcano had exploded and left a ton of debris to mark its fury. Except that this wasn't a village lying at the foot of a fiery volcano in an insect-infested tropical island. This was New York. And this wasn't an act of God, or Nature. This was an act of the devil, or of terrorists.

Something jutted out of the top a mound, a reminder of what had been glass and concrete that rose to heaven and glittered in the sunlight. It was a mat of steel, the bars crisscrossed, black and twisted and jagged, looking gaunt and dull against the grayness of the world. That was what all that the once proud towers had become, a small metal fence. It was the very symbol, said the cameraman, commenting on it, of the end of the world.

Later on, American leaders would come out to say with one voice that the destruction of American symbols would do nothing to destroy the American spirit. New Yorkers in particular, as Giulliani said, would rise from the rubble stronger and prouder than ever. I have no doubt they will, as the altruism and generosity that have been in evidence in the rescue operations amply show. But I do not know too that anybody can underestimate the power of symbols and memories on the way we understand or in a very literal sense construct reality, and the impact this devastation will have not just on the American consciousness but on that of the world. Something has been lost, and lost forever.

Someone said it well when he said that we would no longer wake up to the same world, the entire landscape having changed, the landscape of the mind and of the heart. After Tuesday, no one would ever be able to look the same way at an airplane again. After Tuesday, no one would be able to look the same way at a building again. After Tuesday, no one would be able to look the same way at blue skies again. The list goes further. After Tuesday, no one would be able to watch movies the same way again. After Tuesday, no one would be able to take life and death the same way again. After Tuesday, no one would be able to feel safe again.

People talk of a watershed, or line of demarcation, or a point that divides the past and present. The Holocaust was one such watershed. The bombing of Hiroshima was one such line of demarcation. The razing of the World Trade Center is one such point dividing the past and present. It is a tear in the fabric of time, a pause in its continuum, an interruption in its seamless flow. It is the end of the world as we know it. Nothing would ever be the same.

What will come after this, I do not know. Right now, I do not care to think, I do not dare to think. I just thought I'd say a prayer to mark the passing of the old one.

New dimensions of terrorism

ANALYSIS

Amando Doronila

TERRORIST attacks on United States installations, citizens or military personnel are not new phenomenon. From 1979, there have been at least 15 attacks on US embassies, military installations, commercial aircraft and hijacking of jetliners.

Of these, only two hit targets inside the US mainland—the 1995 explosion of a bomb in a federal building in Oklahoma, killing 168 and wounding more than 500; and the bombing of the parking garage below the World Trade Center in New York, killing six people and wounding more than 1,000.

The terrorist attack last Tuesday on the World Trade Center and the Pentagon carried terrorism to the heartland of US economic and military power. Within minutes of the attack by two jetliners on the World Trade Center, and the crash bombing by another jetliner at the Pentagon, several thousands perished. The death toll has surpassed the 2,403 victims, mainly military personal, of the Japanese attack on Pearl Harbor. It is likely to break the 10,000 casualty record of the US troops in the Vietnam War. The number of Vietnam deaths piled up over a period of several years.

The casualties from the terrorist attacks on the World Trade Center and the Pentagon are still rising, but it is important to point out that in this new form of warfare, civilians are the targets and cannon fodder of terrorists. The treacherous attack at Pearl Harbor struck military installations. The enemy was identifiable for retaliation.

In last Tuesday's attack, the terror massacred civilians and hit the symbols of US economic and military power.

The attacks illustrate the vulnerability of even the mightiest military nation on earth, carried out not by armies but by a small group of fanatical people. The attacks are even more brutal than the sweep of the Mongol hordes across Central Asia on to Europe in the 13th century. The Mongols leveled cities and slaughtered civilians (including the aged, women and children), as well as soldiers.

The slaughter last Tuesday has a new dimension. The targets were population centers and defenseless civilians. This is the reason why the attacks were seen to change the character of conflict and warfare in the first decade of the 21st century. In this kind of warfare, no one is safe, soldiers or civilians. Any Filipino who boards an airline can't be sure his aircraft will be safe from hijack and kamikaze dive bombing.

The US, its Nato allies, the Russians and the Chinese have for the first time since the Gulf War been forced to close ranks in an international coalition to combat this menace. In the Gulf War, allied armies, covered by a mandate from the United Nations Security Council, stormed into Iraq to try to punish President Saddam Hussien. Today, conventional armies cannot be deployed to pursue and root out terrorists moving across national territories.

For the first time, Nato has invoked its charter declaring that an attack on one of its members (the US) is an attack on all. Nato leaders are framing a new strategy of retaliation that would likely depend more on efficient intelligence and going back to the more sordid aspects of counter-espionage, including assassinations and surgical strikes on sanctuaries of terrorists.

The devastating attack on the US mainland has shocked the US and most governments into at last making a more forceful response to borderless terrorism. When the attacks on US installations were peripheral, the shock waves they generated were short-lived and not traumatic. Last Tuesday's attacks shocked the world that terror can strike anywhere—in big or small states.

There's the danger that the impact of the US catastrophe on the Philippines could be exaggerated by media and national security authorities. True we have a past association with the group of Osama Bin Laden, the principal suspect in the US attacks. While it is necessary to take security protections, the prospects of a major attack on the scale of the US are unlikely. We are not on the map of the strategic concerns of terrorist groups. We are a minor player in this game and attacks on this country have no strategic and symbolic impact. Let's not imagine playing big power.

Our danger from terroristic acts comes from home-grown terrorist groups like the Abu Sayyaf, which is likely to derive models from the US attacks. Basically, the Abu Sayyaf terrorism falls into the pattern of the US attacks—they take civilians as hostages, the ultimate act of cowardice.

The role of governments in the face of this new form of warfare on civilians and civil installations is to protect civilians from being helpless prey to terrorist depredations. The US government today is under powerful domestic pressures to retaliate swiftly and effectively. At this time, the immediate concern is to rescue survivors, bury the dead, clear the debris and provide services to the wounded.

There are few times in the history of the US that most countries of the world condoles with it, share its grief over its tragedy and are closing ranks with it in fighting terrorism. The US is already demonstrating the effectiveness of its intelligence and police work after they have been provoked by an emergency to find the culprits and punish them. They have identified suspects, have collected evidence on vehicles used, records of conversations between passengers of hijacked airliners and other pieces of evidence.

The American people are shocked. But they are not hysterical and they have remained calm. Their media are neither hysterical nor noisy, and they have reported the developments with stories hewing close to facts. Something admirable emerges from the Americans when they are under attack. They close ranks. Their patriotism leaps out. They highlight bipartisanship even if their leadership may be less than inspiring. And they spare neither resources nor ingenuity to defeat their enemies.

Movie mayhem and real life

AT LARGE

Rina Jimenez-David

NAME a scene, an image, an incident in the Sept. 11 terrorist atrocities in New York and Washington, D.C., and you have a Hollywood thriller to match it.

A commercial passenger plane is hijacked by terrorists, who plan to ram it into the center of American political power. The movie? "Executive Decision." In the movie, the terrorists also bring on board an atomic bomb that could wipe out the entire East Coast. A team of commandos is successfully loaded onto the plane, and after they manage to defuse the bomb, they must convince the White House not to shoot down the plane and everyone in it as they are already in control.

Terrorists set off a series of major bomb attacks in New York City, turning The Big Apple into an armed fortress. The movie? "The Siege." In the movie, outraged authorities resort to arresting any and all Arab-looking persons on the street and dump them in concentration camps. Given the mood in America today, not an impossibility.

A terrorist brings another atomic bomb into New York, threatening to bring to the heart of America the bloodshed, chaos and tragedy that he believes America exported to his war-torn country. The movie? "The Peacemaker." In the movie, secret service agents manage to remove the radioactive core, turning the device into an "ordinary" bomb. Now they know in New York that you don't even need a bomb, a plane loaded with fuel will do the job.

Symbols of American might and muscle: the White House, the Pentagon, the World Trade Center, even the glistening top of the Chrysler Building, go up in smoke, collapsing in huge mushroom clouds of dust. The movies? "Independence Day," "Mars Attacks," "Deep Impact." The villains were aliens or runaway asteroids, but what really made the movies fantasies was the comforting notion that such sights (like the Statue of Liberty broken and buried in debris in the original "Planet of the Apes") are figments of imagination, never to be seen in real life. Think again.

"If all the footage we saw last night were part of a movie, we would have laughed them off and said: 'Get outta here, that can't happen,'" someone told me Wednesday. Indeed, not even a screenwriter with the most fertile imagination could have had the audacity to dream up the horrors of Sept. 11. The all-too-real horrors, unfortunately.

* * *

WHEN I heard New York City Mayor Rudy Giuliani say that the number of dead in the World Trade Center tragedy could reach the "thousands," I exclaimed: "My God, that's almost like the body count in a war."

And indeed, Manhattan and the Pentagon looked like a war zone that day.

CNN commentator Jeff Greenfield said the largest number of Americans to die on American soil in a single day was at the Battle of Antietam during the Civil War when 22,000 soldiers from both the Confederate and Union died. The Oklahoma bombing, which held the record as the worst case of terrorism in the United States before Tuesday's events, racked up a death toll of around 150, Greenfield added. But there were already 266 people aboard the four hijacked planes alone. Before this is over, the attack on the WTC and the Pentagon will have far outstripped Oklahoma in horror and carnage.

Greenfield's numbers sent me searching for death statistics recorded in other armed conflicts where Americans have been involved. In the 10 years or so of both covert and overt participation in the Vietnam War, some 50,000 American soldiers and other personnel died. This averages to 5,000 deaths for every year, which may explain the deep and convulsive fissures within American society over Vietnam.

But if, as some reports estimate, the final death toll reaches "five figures," then the impact of the Sept. 11 events will be far more traumatic, and reach deeper down into the psyche of all Americans, and of anyone who values life and civility.

* * *

AS SOMEONE who knows the pleasure of slacking, all I can say in the wake of the World Trade Center tragedy is that sometimes, it pays to listen to the inner sloth.

Interviewed by the New York Times, Kathleen Dendy, 50, said she usually reports for work by 8:30 a.m. But she decided to get her hair cut that day, and she got to lower Manhattan in time to see a plane slam into her building, just about where her office was on the 99th floor. Rajesh Trivedi, 40, a computer programmer, normally reported at 7, but had to drop his son off at school and never made it to work.

Brianne Woods, a college student, was walking to class less than a hundred feet from the WTC when she heard a blast and felt the ground shake. When she looked up and saw the gaping hole in Tower 1, her first thought was her brother who worked at the WTC. She learned later that he had not gone to work.

Families here who frantically burned the wires to find out the fate of loved ones working in New York were heartened to find out, paradoxically, that their son, daughter or spouse was slacking off Tuesday and were not at the WTC when the planes slammed into the towers. But through e-mail, I have just found out that the husband of a high school classmate, who works on the 95th floor of the first tower that was hit, has not gotten in touch with his family and is now considered missing.

Earlier, I made a mental accounting of everyone I knew and loved in New York and Washington, D.C. All have either called or e-mailed to say they're safe, or else have no reason to be anywhere near the WTC or the Pentagon at that time of day. And now this news. No matter how tenuous, we all are linked somehow to this tragedy that shocked the world.

Kamikaze pilots

LOOKING BACK

Ambeth R. Ocampo

TUESDAY'S terrorist attack on the World Trade Center in New York City and the Pentagon in Washington, D.C. has made people look back to Pearl Harbor in 1941 and Kamikaze pilots toward the close of the Pacific War. The only parallel is that both were very rare attacks on the United States itself. Pearl Harbor was a military target on the fringe of the United States but the World Trade Center and the Pentagon were in the heart of the nation and were filled with innocent civilians. The death toll last Tuesday will far exceed that of Pearl Harbor and though we are half the world away from the United States I think many of us are still coming to terms with this tragedy. Being a historian these days is quite tiresome because I am not only asked to comment on the events of Tuesday in the context of Pearl Harbor, some people even ask me to interpret those cryptic quatrains of Nostradamus to see if this recent disaster makes sense in the context of the past and our future.

During the *despedida* for outgoing US Embassy chargé d'affaires Malinowski last Wednesday I noticed that many guests took the trouble to be present in sympathy for the victims of the attacks last Tuesday. Malinowski called for a minute of silence in memory of those who died and the living who now mourn. It was a solemn moment broken by the ringing of someone's cellphone. I don't know if that is technological progress or just the ill manners of someone who should be struck out of the US Embassy guest list. To make matters worse, this individual played *"dead-ma"* and left the phone ringing during the minute of silence!

Pearl Harbor and Kamikaze pilots have been taken out of the dustbin of history again, what was once ancient history has become relevant again except that this new breed of kamikaze are worse. In recent times we have had suicide bombers who would ram into a building in a vehicle filled with explosives. This was why concrete "flower boxes" were installed outside the US Embassy on Roxas Boulevard and the then Thomas Jefferson Cultural Center along Buendia Avenue in Makati in 1988. Tired of that, terrorists have now taken commercial airlines and crashed them into buildings.

Kamikaze literally means "Divine Wind" an allusion to a fortunate gust of wind that saved Japan from a Mongol invasion in the 13th century. On Oct. 19, 1944 Vice Adm. Takijiro Onishi, stationed in Luzon, announced the formation of a new kind of kamikaze in Mabalacat, Pampanga. Some years ago, the "birthplace of the Kamikaze" could be seen on the highway on the way up to Baguio. It was a forgotten and dilapidated (vandalized?) shrine in a sugarcane field beside the Mabalacat Water District Pumping station. Not many people know that the Kamikaze was born in Pampanga. History-minded citizens of Mabalacat plan to erect a more permanent memorial soon.

In 1944 the "Divine Wind" was called forth once more to give Japan an edge in the Pacific War by using Zero fighters fitted with 550-pound bombs for suicide attacks. There were about 424 Kamikaze pilots, mostly idealistic and inexperienced youths. Naturally, expert pilots were not accepted as kamikaze because their flying skills were badly needed by the Japanese Air Force. These pilots, to the amazement of the Americans, would zero in on their target and crash headlong on a ship, inflicting much damage. Unimaginable to Americans was that Kamikaze pilots were not scared, and like the samurai, were resigned to death and calm at the time of death. They wore the *hachimake* or the samurai headband, to symbolize courage and calm. They were trained to inflict maximum destruction. Contrary to popular belief, not all Kamikaze pilots died on their first assignment because their orders read: "Do not be in a hurry to die. If you cannot find your target, turn back to fly another day."

The kamikaze did not look forward to surviving the war and returning to their families. For them, dying was a patriotic duty. Vice Admiral Onishi told them they were "already gods without earthly desires." They were given special treatment in the camps and their planes were kept scrupulously clean by the other men as these were literally "flying coffins." For many not into Japanese culture it is hard to imagine some committed to sure death living the rest of his life as normally as possible.

In an interesting photo-essay with text by the historian Joel Steinberg found in that Time-Life picture book, "Return to the Philippines," we get a glimpse into the life and death of a Kamikaze pilot through his last letters to family and friends. These were sent with other "relics" like hair and fingernail clippings. One such letter reads:

"Please congratulate me. I have been given a splendid opportunity to die. This is my last day. The destiny of our homeland hinges on the decisive battle in the seas to the south where I shall fall like a blossom from a radiant cherry tree...We are 16 warriors manning the bombers. May our death be as sudden and clean as the shattering of crystal."

Reading more about the Kamikaze of World War II and the suicide bombers and suicide pilots of recent terrorist attacks proves that we have not changed very much in 50 years. The world has actually gone from bad to worse.

* * *

Comments are welcome at ambeth@admu.edu.ph

Priority of necessities

COMMENTARY

John J. Carroll, S.J

Institute on Church and Social Issues

CELING Concepcion, the volunteer social worker who handles our feeding program for malnourished infants at Payatas, was disturbed and depressed when she came to see me last week. Going into a particularly miserable patch of shanties the week before, she had weighed the babies. Sixteen were suffering from third-degree malnutrition and should be taken into our program. One was also severely dehydrated as a result of diarrhea. Celing had told the mother that the baby should be hospitalized, and advised her to take it to the National Children's Hospital.

Some days later Celing, who is also a paramedic, was on duty at the local clinic when a 13-year-old boy came rushing in carrying the baby, who seemed to be in convulsions. The baby died almost in Celing's arms, and the boy began to wail: their mother had left him in charge of his little sister, and now she was dead! It turned out that the mother had not taken the baby to the hospital, but had taken her husband instead; a scavenger, he was suffering from "red tide." The 13-year old, eldest of seven children, had been left in charge.

Still later, Celing and my Jesuit colleague "Gabby" Lamug-Nanawa visited the family's miserable shanty; it was raining, and Gabby was shocked to see a little girl, whether a sister of the dead child or a neighbor he was not sure, sitting on a cold stone in a wet T-shirt because she had no other clothes.

Disturbed at what had happened, and at what they had seen, Celing and Gabby came asking whether we could take 20 infants into the feeding program this time instead of the usual 10, lest we lose another one. Looking at our bank balance I said alright for this time, but we cannot take 20 every two weeks. At P32 per day for six weeks, each baby is costing us P1,344 for milk; 10 every two weeks means that there are 40 babies in the program at any one time, and 20 would push it to 80.

We have found that in six weeks of daily milk-feeding they can be brought up to normal weight. Celing also gives nutrition lessons to the mothers, leading up to cooking contests in which the mothers' menus are tried out and rated for nutritional value, cost, local availability of ingredients and taste. And we did a small follow-up study of 70 "graduates" of the program; only five were again malnourished, and this only in first degree. So I tried to console Celing, reminding her that however badly she feels over the one whom we lost, there are many others who have been saved through her dedicated work.

It all made me think. First of all on the need to expand the program particularly in this time of unemployment, economic hardship and rains which increase the risk of bronchial pneumonia for malnourished infants. Our funding comes principally from private benefactors, some of whom give regularly; but the money goes out as fast as it comes in and we rarely have funding for more than a month ahead. Other benefactors would be most welcome and may contact us at ICSI (Ateneo de Manila Campus; PO Box 250, UP Post Office; phone 426-6144).

A second line of thought was inspired by some lines written 1,700 years ago by the great St. John Chrysostom, bishop and doctor of the Church: "Of what use is it to weigh down Christ's table with golden cups, when he himself is dying of hunger? First, fill him when he is hungry; then use the means you have left to adorn his table...Do not, therefore, adorn the church and ignore your afflicted brother, for he is the most precious temple of all." It made me wonder about the values of those who would insist on building monumental churches rather than feeding Christ's poor. And to recall the words of a friend upon hearing of an extravagantly elaborate church in one of the "villages": "God isn't in that church."

Finally, one recalls the seven children of the scavenger at Payatas, and the Church's teaching that a family should not have more children than it can raise in decency. I have no argument with those who claim that the world or our society could support a larger population than the present one. But this assumes that the necessary structures—economic and political and educational and social—are in place and functioning. And it is only too evident that in the Philippines they are not in place. Nor can we expect them, even with our best efforts, to be fully in place within the next 10 or 20 years or even more.

In the meantime we need family planning programs, programs which respect the consciences and freedom of individuals. We need them, not to make life easier for the economic planners by reducing the birth rate, but to reduce the burdens on poor families. A form of social service compensating somewhat—as our feeding program tries to compensate—for the structural injustice of the society of which we are all a part.

I see here a priority of necessary responses: for the immediate needs, feeding programs; for the mid-term, family planning; for the long run, economic and social development.

WHATEVER HAPPENED TO . . . ?

Contractual interference against IMG

BUSINESSMAN Benigno Gopez has sued the International Management Group (IMG) for damages worth P60 million over the issue of "contractual interference" regarding the management of Filipino golfer Felix "Cassius" Casas' career. The civil case was filed on Sept. 10, 1999 at the Quezon City Regional Trial Court. (PDI, 9/14/99)

The case, raffled off to the sala of Judge Hilario Laqui of Branch 218, stemmed from the promising international career of Casas. Gopez started handling his career on Feb. 5, 1993 "recognizing the potential of Casas as a fine Filipino professional golfer of world and top-class caliber." In the 11-page complaint filed by Gopez, he cited that there was an agreement for him to act as business manager of Casas until Jan. 31, 1998. Gopez agreed to provide, at his own expense, all clubs, equipment and accessories necessarily needed by Casas. He likewise consented to shoulder all actual expenses such as fare, hotel accommodation, food, entry and caddie's fees. He shall get 50 percent of Casas' winnings in international tournaments and endorsements. It was also stipulated that if Casas wins a particular tournament, he shall get a 20-percent bonus from Gopez's share.

Gopez said he has invested a lot of money and effort in Casas which, he said, resulted in the "phenomenal rise of Casas to become the best Filipino golfer among the present crop of Filipino golfers, next only to Frankie Miñosa." He added that the agreement was automatically renewed for another five years, or an extension until 2003. When Casas showed strong standings in international tournaments, IMG offered a tie-up with Gopez to represent Casas on a worldwide basis, which he politely declined.

Gopez said IMG prodded Casas to terminate his valid and existing agreement and "secretly negotiated a new sponsorship agreement with Casas" which is a clear violation of the previous agreement. Gopez added his expenditures and efforts have not yet begun to redound to him in terms of his share of the winnings and other earnings.

He has asked the court to order the IMG to pay him a total of P60 million as actual and compensatory damages, moral damages, exemplary damages, attorney's fees and litigation expenses.

A year after the case was filed, both parties filed a joint motion to dismiss. They said that there has been an amicable settlement of the case out of the court.

Case status: Last Sept. 20, upon receiving notice from the authorized bank that the settlement has taken effect, the court ordered the case "dismissed with prejudice" without disclosing the amount of the settlement. Casas is still actively playing in tournaments.

Armin P. Adina, PDI Research Department

Whose side is the President really on?

TWO news reports are curiously placed side by side in the Sept. 11 issue of the INQUIRER.

The first reads: "Army inspector general sacked (officer released report blaming chief for fiasco); And the second: "Nacorda fears whitewash of Basilan case by military."

And as if these were not disturbing enough, Malacañang, through presidential spokesperson, Rigoberto Tiglao, labeled the official report of the sacked Army inspector as "outdated." The PDI news report added: "Even as Villanueva offered to resign, President Macapagal is congratulating him and his troops in making headway in their fight against the Abu Sayyaf."

We in Kaalagad Katipunang Kristyano are deeply disturbed by these developments surrounding the still unfinished congressional inquiry into Fr. Cirilo Nacorda's allegations of a collusion between some high ranking officers in the military and the local government in Basilan and the Abu Sayyaf. We have a lot of questions on the way President Macapagal, directly or through her mouthpieces, has already exonerated the military officers involved and how she keeps on congratulating the military for their "success" in fighting the Abu Sayyaf.

What "headway" or "success" is she talking about? Does she mean the continuing devastation of the homes, property and innocent lives in Basilan and other parts of war-torn Mindanao? Or perhaps she is referring to the sad fact that the military high command is not even able, neither does it seem to have the political will, to protect its own fighting men and women; because some of its highest ranking officials are reportedly playing Judases with the killers they are supposed to fight!

We have long been wondering whether Ms Macapagal really wants to beat the Abu Sayyaf, and put a stop to the violence and despair they are spreading among our Christian and Muslim brothers and sisters in Mindanao. We are close to concluding that she is just like all the other leaders before her, who were quite happy to keep the Mindanao conflict active because it distracts the people from noticing how much like Mindanao, the rest of the country really is?

We were with Father Nacorda and his courageous group of witnesses from Lamitan during the Senate hearing. We met and heard them again when the Task Force Detainees of the Philippines, the Justice and Peace through Integrity of Creation Commission (AMRSP), the Urban Missionaries of the Philippines and the Kaalagad Katipunang Kristyano, the Women's Desk of the Major Religious Superiors of the Philippines, held a special "Parangal' for them last week at the La Salle Greenhills. And we came away from these encounters fully convinced:

- That Fathers Nacorda and Enriquez and their fellow witnesses from Lamitan are telling the truth.
- That they are all just simple and ordinary human beings who have nothing to gain and everything to lose from their brave action.
- That what they are revealing to the nation is vital to the final resolution of the Abu Sayyaf problem, by removing from the scene people—military and civilian officials—who are like vultures that live on the corpses of the victims of their business partners—the Abu Sayyaf.

LETTERS

In contrast, the military men being accused of desecrating and making money out of their sworn duty to protect the people come across to us as less than truthful and honorable officers and gentlemen. They seem to be more interested in covering up for each other than in helping the truth to come out. And these are the people that Ms Macapagal keeps on insisting are innocent even before their investigation is over.

Whose side is Ms Macapagal on? Whose interests is she protecting and promoting?

She owes us and the Filipino people—especially the victims and their relatives—an honest answer and effective action.—**FR. BEN A. MORALEDA, CSsR, national spokesperson, Kaalagad (Katipunang Kristyano)**

Moratorium on Congress probes makes sense

THE RECOMMENDATION of House Majority Leader Neptali Gonzales II to declare a moratorium on congressional probes is the most sensible recommendation I have heard from a representative in a very long time. Speaker Jose de Venecia would do well to heed the call.

In the first place, the representatives were elected not to subject government officials, officers or private entities to inquiries and harass them. They are in Congress to pass laws, and pass laws they should.

If representatives need information that will help them in crafting better legislation, all they have to do is get data from concerned offices or people. They don't have to waste people's money in undertakings that are too showy and only promote their own interests.—**AMELIA GATUS, Scout Gandia, Quezon City**

Not one of the Gang of Five

THIS is in reference to newspaper reports identifying me as a member of the so-called "Gang of Five," a group of representatives allegedly engaged in extortion.

I reiterate my innocence of the accusations hurled against my person and I will gladly submit myself to the House ethics committee, a body that I prodded to investigate the alleged members of the "Gang of Five" through a House resolution. I even went as far as quitting my post as House assistant minority leader and my membership in Laban ng Demokratikong Pilipino to prove that I am holding on to nothing but the truth to pluck me out of his scandal.

My name and reputation are the only legacy I will leave my family and my constituents and I will do whatever it takes to prove that I'm no extortionist but a lawmaker who abandoned his lucrative career as a lawyer and his private life to reach out and serve his people.—**ROLEX T. SULPICIO, representative, House of Representatives, R-N205, Batasang Pambansa Complex, Quezon City**

IF you have any complaints, grievances or suggestions about the treatment of news and photos by the Inquirer, you may write to the Readers' Advocate, Philippine Daily Inquirer, Chino Roces Avenue, corner Yague and Mascardo Streets, City of Makati or send a fax to Nos. 897-4793, 897-4794, or e-mail readersadvocate@inquirer.com.ph

Writers of letters to the editor are requested to include their complete address and telephone or pager number or e-mail address for verification purposes. The Inquirer will not publish any letter unless such information is supplied.

'Trapo' defined

WHO is a *trapo*? He is a political animal who feigns being human and poses as a self-sacrificing benefactor of those who are not well-off or well-connected in our society. He is dirty rich, and he has many police and military officers, customs and immigration officials, even judges and justices in his pocket.

The *trapo* is the bane of our society. He makes a mess of our law enforcement agencies and judicial system. He is beyond reform, being rotten to the bones.

New politics? The *trapo* will see to it that new politics will have as much chance to succeed as a snowball in hell. He employ all ways and means to extend his happy days. His success is certain if the common *tao* does not make common cause with Col. Victor Corpus.—**JOSE A. SUBIDA, executive officer, Philippine Lawyers' Referral Center, 3211 Mega Plaza, ADB Ave., Pasig City**

Shabu haul in Lipa raid

WE are compelled to react and air our side on the recent publications regarding the status of the highly publicized seizure of *shabu* and *shabu* ingredients at Barangay Santo Niño, Lipa City last April 28, 2001.

In the rejoinder of Chief Supt. Domingo A. Reyes Jr., director, Police Regional Office 4 (PDI, 8/29/00) to the article of Nelson A. Flores last Aug. 25, 2001, Reyes declared that the official finished product found during the raid was "58.55 kilos only because the other confiscated evidence were still in the processing stage and the rest were still raw materials."

For purposes of clarification, it was Police Chief Supt. Lucas Managuelod, director for investigation and detective management, himself who stated in his letter to us on 12 July 2001 that "...600 kilograms of *shabu* and 500 kilograms of ingredients in *shabu* processing as well as numerous instruments in *shabu* manufacturing (were) seized in Lipa City." Managuelod's letter was in response to our requests to Interior Secretary Joey Lina and himself for an update on the case and our proposed public destruction of all items seized. With this information, who and which is accurate now? Managuelod and the 600 kilos, or Reyes and the 58.55 kilos. of *shabu* finished product? We are drawn into a mystery which is unfolding quite close to the revelations at the ongoing Senate hearings. (We are worried that the difference has fallen into unscrupulous hands and are now out in the streets wreaking havoc on the lives of the innocent and the gullible, especially the youth.)—**ALFREDO A. MADLANGBAYAN, vicar general, Archdiocese of Lipa, parish priest, Parish of San Sebastian**

Velasco has nothing to explain

THE SUPREME Court administrator, Justice Presbytero Velasco, must be doing a great job as president of the Philippine Columbian Club in Paco, Manila. Otherwise, he would not have been the subject of a "white paper" concocted by individuals afflicted with dementia.

As club president, Velasco should not be blamed for being nice and accommodating to members, even if some of them happen to be controversial figures, like suspected drug lord Kim Wong. Unfortunately, there are those inside the organization who have already found Velasco guilty by association.

You can't put a good man down. So carry on, Justice Velasco, and damn the torpedoes! As Elbert Hubbard says, "Never explain. Your friends do not need it and your enemies will not believe you anyway."—**ERICK SAN JUAN, executive vice president, Philippine Jaycee Senate Foundation, Suite 1402, 1st e-Bank Tower, Paseo de Roxas, Makati City**

Water supply woes

MAY we call the attention of the people concerned regarding a major problem in our barangay. Our water supply comes only at night, and it takes us the whole night to fill our water containers. This is terribly inconvenient because that's the only time we can do our household chores like washing clothes.

The problem started when the Metropolitan Waterworks Service System carried out their "main pipelining project" along A. Bonifacio Avenue last December. After the project was completed, the water supply became worse.

In behalf of our barangay, may we request the parties concerned to give immediate attention to our problem.—**MARISTEL GOMEZ and ROWENA MADRID, 8-L. Fernandez St., Balintawak, Quezon City**

Pray it doesn't escalate

I HOPE and pray that the terrorist attack in the United States will no longer escalate, and that they will be able to catch and punish those who are responsible for these dastardly acts.—**RAMON V. SEÑERES, Philam Village, Las Piñas City**

CIPRIANO P. PRIMICIAS

An Illustrious Figure During the Golden Years of the Senate

The greatness of a man is measured by the impact of his service to those of lesser stature than him.

Decades after his death, Senator Cipriano P. Primicias' earnest and selfless commitment to his multiple callings - as skilled lawyer, outstanding legislator, seasoned statesman, champion of the masses, and loyal partyman, resonates in the hearts and minds of those whose lives he touched.

Indeed, a man's character is measured not only by how much good he left, but also by how much energy, passion and single-mindedness he pursued his life goals. These values Primicias lived out, experienced and shared, with those brushed by his life, and other worthwhile stories make the remembrance of him timeless as his values and nobility of purpose is universal for all seasons and generations.

Cipriano P. Primicias' saga of service was bound by resolute and earnest dedication to his country and fellowmen. In this time, he was acknowledged as a man who does not compromise principle to political expediency, a true democrat, a great parliamentarian and fiscalizer, a patriot known as the **"Pride of the North"**, for his keen legal mind.

But even among temporary enemies, there was respect and admiration, for his actions were always fair and above board, even as his words thundered with wisdom. People will forever remember his as a man of substance, a disciplined thinker.

Primicias garnered 5th Place among the Bar Topnotchers in 1923 and from there he went on to become the Top Law Practitioner of the North and, subsequently, to become a political expert and outstanding legislator.

He got married in 1930 and proved to be a faithful husband, and a good provider for his 9 children, whom he brought up in a stable, and disciplined fashion, living within the means earned by his own sweat, intolerant of dishonest, deception and arrogance.

Cipriano Primicias exercised authority responsibly, as a service to nation and his contemporaries, for the public weal, because he considered himself ultimately accountable for his life and his act to a Higher Authority, whom he acknowledged every night before he went to sleep", this from his daughter, Marietta.

In 1934 Primicias switched from law to politics. He was elected thrice to the House as Representative, from the 4th District of Pangasinan up to 1949, and right after World War 2- became the House Minority Floor Leader – the most dynamic in Congress history.

There were only two political parties then – the Nacionalista and Liberal parties. In the House, being an outstanding protagonist for the cause of the Nacionalista Party, Primicias acquired such names as **"Paladin of the Minority" "Oppositionist Par Excellence"**, Primicias demonstrated unexcelled ability as parliamentarian, both as oppositionist and as stalwart of the majority party.

Senator Cipriano P. Primicias, the public servant is virtually synonymous to incorruptibility, one quality that set the senator apart from other politicians even in his time. He served tow terms in the Senate, from 1951 to 1963 after serving as Congressman. He won't be dubbed, after all, by his colleagues as the "Incorruptible Workhouse of the Senate" just for spite.

True enough, there was no hint of scandal that ever blemished his reputation, despite the temptations of his positions as Senate Majority Floor Leader and Chairman of the powerful Committee on Rules. His Senate duties also pushed him to keep long hours at his desk, thus he was called the "Busiest Senator" because he made it a rule to study meticulously every bill that passed through his scrutiny, both in form and substance.

Those years of the Philippine Senate circa 1953-1964, were considered the golden years of the branch of our government, what with mature and learned statesmen in the persons of Claro M. Recto, Arturo M. Tolentino, Fernando Lopez, Gil Puyat, Alejo Mabanag, Emmanuel Palaez, Geronima Pecson, Estanislao Fernandez, Francisco Delgado, and Pedro Sabido among others.

The social justice consciousness that Primicias demonstrated in his lifetime was rooted in his rustic boy hood in his native town of Alcala in Pangasinan, which was then a mere pioneer outpost of Ilocano settlers.

Liberated by his father at 11 years old, he found his way to Manila, working at odd jobs while he was sending himself and four (4) other siblings to school.

Eventually, he worked as a clerk to support his way through law school, and yet by dint of hard work, dedication, and sacrifice, he always landed at the top rung of his class. His humble beginnings gave rise to his deep understanding of rural life and the problems encountered by rural folks and the source of compassion which unuerlay his legislative work for the welfare of the poor and underprivileged masses of our people.

Primicias, thus, became champion for social justice for people's welfare. As Senate Majority Floor Leader, he gave top priority in the Senate's calendar of business to social justice bills passing through the legislative mill, and unfailingly supported their authors and sponsors in floor debates and committee reports. He himself authored a measure relative to free emergency medical and dental treatment for workers in (commercial houses) private companies. He filed the bill creating the Court of Agrarian Relations and also the Act for the Organization and Regulation of Cooperatives (Associations), among others.

Primicias was the most steadfast pillar of support' during the difficult passage of the landmark Land Reform Code in the Senate, which was vehemently opposed by big landowners, during President Macapagal's time.

Primicias will be remembered by generations of Filipinos for he brought the art of politics to a high level of excellence. These were his defining qualities as a politician. He valued his name as a treasure and fiercely exemplified his sense of integrity. Cipriano P. Primicias was truly a personification of an honor-bound man."

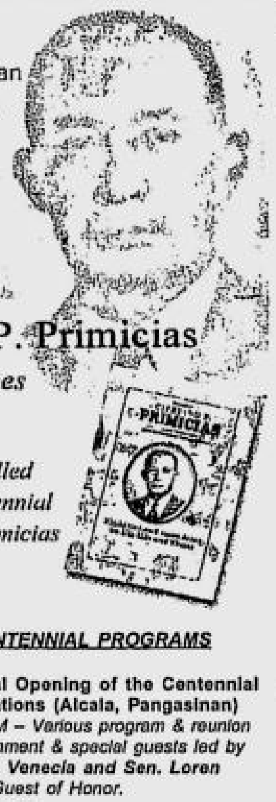
His Biography - At A Glance

Cipriano Purungganan Primicias was born on September 14, 1901 in Alcala, Pangasinan to ***Javier Crescini Primicias*** of Manila and Pangasinan, and ***Cristeta Purungganan Primicias*** of Vigan, Ilocos Sur. He was married to Miss Pangasinan of 1930, ***Nieves Ocampo Benito*** and had nine children namely: ***Cipriano "Tito" Jr.***, who served as Congressman and Governor of Pangasinan; ***Marietta***, married to ***Amb. Raul I. Goco***, who served as Undersecretary and Chair of the Presidential Commission to Fight Poverty; Ricardo, who served as 1971 Constitutional Convention Delegate; lawyer ***Juan Augusto*** married to ***Shirley Barquin***; ***Ramon*** (+); ***Edmundo***; ***Carlos***; ***Perla***, widow of ***Ignacio dela Hoz***; and ***Baby Nieves***, married to ***Peter Fungerlings***.

Cipriano P. Primicias died in Quezon City on September 20, 1965.

CENTENNIAL CELEBRATIONS

Remembering
a Great Statesman
and Outstanding
Parliamentarian



Senator
Cipriano P. Primicias
his life and times

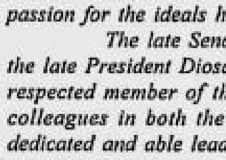
The golden years of the Senate recalled in Primicias Centennial birth. Book on Primicias launched.

PRIMICIAS CENTENNIAL PROGRAMS

September 14: Formal Opening of the Centennial Celebrations (Alcala, Pangasinan)
9:00 AM to 2:00 PM – Various program & reunion of clan local government & special guests led by Speaker Jose de Venecia and Sen. Loren Legarda-Leviste Guest of Honor.
September 15: Youth Day
8:00 AM- Symposium on Drug Prevention at the Municipal Auditorium
September 16: Liga ng mga Barangay
8:00 AM– 4:00 PM: Distribution of goods to barangays
8:00 PM– Program at the Municipal Auditorium
September 17: NGOs & Civil Organizations
8:30 AM- Program & Contests on the Revival of Folk Dances & Folk Songs at the Municipal Auditorium
September 18: Secondary Schools
8:00 AM- Literary-Musical Program at the Municipal Auditorium
1:00 PM- Ballroom & Modern Dance Contest
September 19: Elementary Schools
2:00 PM- Sayawit Festival at the Mun. Auditorium
September 20: 126th Alcala Day Celebration
6:00 Am- Thanksgiving Mass in all Churches
7:00 AM- Floral Offering
7:30 AM- Civic Parade
Literary- Musical Program
Exhibitions: Drum & Lyre Corps
1:00 PM- Medical-Dental Mission
8:00 PM- Community Night & Ballroom/Dance Contest

Note: Other year-long activities during the Primicias centennial are lined up.

National Leaders Honor Sen. Primicias



*My warmest greetings to the family and friends of the late Congressman and Senator **Cipriano P. Primicias** whose illustrious career as a public servant and statesman we are now commemorating on the occasion of his 100th birth anniversary. Today, 100 years since that birth of this great son of Pangasinan, Senator Primicias' legacy as a distinguished legislator continues to set the standard for excellence and integrity for those chosen to represent the people in the august chambers of Congress. Brought up experiencing the realities of war and poverty in the country. Senator Primicias built his career over a foundation of dynamism, loyalty and passion for the ideals he holds dear for our people during his time.*

The late Senator was a prominent member of Congress during the presidency of my father, the late President Diosdado Macapagal. Senator Primicias' achievements and accomplishments as a respected member of the minority during that time served as benchmarks and inspiration to all his colleagues in both the minority and the majority. Indeed, his colorful career exemplifies how a dedicated and able leader can make a significant contribution toward the improvement of the country regardless of political affiliation. Truly, his contributions can undoubtedly be considered as among the vital factors that heralded the Senate during his time as the golden years of his esteemed branch of government.

As we look back at the life and times of the late Senator and commit his brand of service to our national psyche, I urge every Filipino to reflect on how we can emulate his example of leadership, dynamism and integrity. May we, be in government service or in private practice, follow Senator Primicias' example of unyielding loyalty and love for country as we carry on our own battle against poverty and for socio-political transformation.

It is thus my utmost hope that this auspicious occasion will give us inspiration to continue Senator Primicias' pursuit of a better life for all Filipinos. May we mirror his dedication, determination, and love for country.

GLORIA MACAPAGAL-ARROYO
President
Republic of the Philippines

*The late **Senator Cipriano P. Primicias** was one of the nation's great leaders that trod the august hall of Congress. He was indeed a great parliamentarian. His integrity and wisdom made him stood above the rest of his peers during his time.*

The legacy of our illustrious leaders should be perpetuated to serve as inspiration for the succeeding generations.

TEOFISTO T. GUINGONA
Vice President
Republic of the Philippines

*As a brilliant lawyer and an illustrious senator, Senator Primicias embodied the legislator **par excellence**. His primordial concern was that of the public interest the greatest welfare for our countrymen. I know for a fact that his integrity is without question and his dedication to his craft is a source of inspiration to all public officials. With much pride, I can say that the esteemed senator has influenced me in many of the advocacies that I pursue not in my career as a policymaker.*

FRANKLIN M. DRILON
Senate President
Philippine Senate

Senator Primicias is certainly one of the more admirable Filipino statesmen of modern times. His life was a storybook success, achieved by dint of hardwork and determination. He was a poor boy who put himself through school, built a brilliant and lucrative career as a lawyer, then found his true calling serving the people. Throughout his public career, his integrity and reputation remained unblemished – something that is truly remarkable in a rough-and-tumble world that is Philippine politics.

In the legislature, he championed social justice, authoring laws that uplift workers' welfare. His ardent advocacy was instrumental in the passage of the Land Reform Code. By these alone, he left a lasting mark on the lives of our people.

JOSE DE VENECIA,JR.
Speaker
House of Representatives

It is with great pride that I share with his family and relatives, his town mates of Alcala, and our Pangasinan province mates, the joy of remembering this good, sound, and exemplary public servant, who devoted his entire career in pursuit of the highest national interest, and left an admirable record of service for Filipinos to emulate.

FIDEL V. RAMOS
Former President
Republic of the Philippines

The late Senator Cipriano Primicias is one of the greatest statesmen in our political history. Having served in the Legislature for almost three decades, he illustrated exemplary qualities and competence as parliamentarian both as an oppositionist and, later on, as stalwart of the administration party.

As we remember his 100th birthday, let us celebrate the memories of the man who had been known as the "Paladin of the Minority", "Opposition Par Excellence", "Outstanding Parliamentarian", and "Incorruptible Workhorse of the Senate".

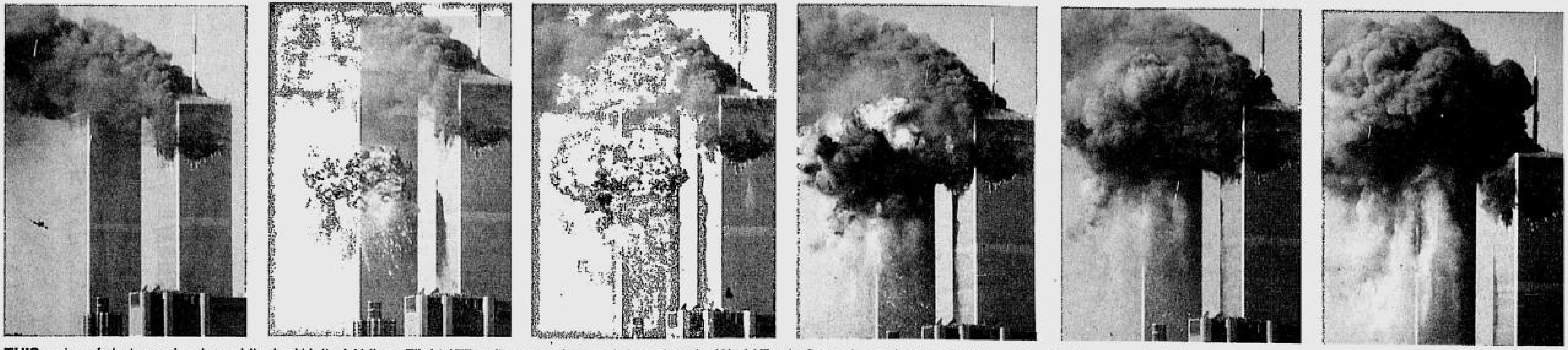
LOREN LEGARDA-LEVISTE
Majority Floor Leader
Philippine Senate

Indeed, Senator Primicias is a gift to the entire country who exemplified the best in the Filipino. His life and exemplary works dedicated to the Filipino nation should be our inspiration during these times of national rebuilding and social transformation.

ALBERTO G. ROMULO
Executive Secretary
Office of the President

The WORLD

LUVERNE B. GUECO, EDITOR



THIS series of photographs shows hijacked United Airlines Flight 175 as it approaches and slams into the World Trade Center's south tower (left), bursting into flames and raining a hail of debris on lower Manhattan Sept. 11. A gaping hole in the north tower (right) can be seen following a similar attack earlier in the day.

REUTERS

Japan: Attacks could trigger war

TOKYO—The devastating terrorist attacks on New York's World Trade Center and the Pentagon in Washington could trigger a war, Japan's top government spokesperson said Thursday.

"If we take a long-term view on it, the terrorist attack might become the trigger point for a war," Chief Cabinet Secretary Yasuo Fukuda said at a regular press conference when asked if Japan shared the US assessment that the attacks were "an act of war."

"However, to be honest, terrorist acts have been happening in the United States. I think it would be more appropriate to see (the attacks) in that context," Fukuda added.

On Wednesday President George W. Bush labeled the terror strikes acts of war and vowed to hit back.

"The deliberate and deadly attacks which were carried out yesterday against our country were more than acts of terror, they were acts of war," he said.

"This will be a monumental struggle of good versus evil, but good will prevail."

Japanese Prime Minister Junichiro Koizumi was due to talk with Bush by telephone later Thursday to express his support for the US fight against terrorism, the premier's deputy press secretary Tsutomu Himeno said.

"In the conversation, the prime minister is expected to express that Japan, as an allied country, will support President Bush's stance to resolutely fight against terrorism," Himeno said.

Earlier Wednesday Koizumi said "of course" Tokyo would continue backing the United States, even if it used force in retaliation against terrorist attacks on New York and Washington.

"Japan supports the US stance that the United States never yields to terrorism," the premier said. "We also have to show our firm stance."

But Fukuda expressed caution over the extent of Japan's support for its closest ally in the event that military retaliation escalated into a wider conflict.

"How Japan would cooperate in the case of war is not clear at present because we need to examine the situation," he said. "It depends how we define war."

AFP

Muslims admonish US: Islam is not the enemy

KUALA LUMPUR—Muslims around the world are flashing a message to the United States as it desperately seeks a target to avenge the terror attacks on New York and Washington: Islam is not the enemy.

At the same time, sympathy for the victims is tempered with a sense that the US had it coming and had better rethink its foreign policy—even though Islamic involvement remains just a theory.

From Muslims on the street to newspaper editorial writers and Islamic pundits, comments followed a predictable path: the attacks were horrific but, in some way beyond the reach of most Americans, understandable:

- An editorial in moderate-Muslim Malaysia's Utusan newspaper: "The tragedy in US teaches us that the strong and powerful should not oppress the weak. This is the price that America must pay for their own attitude."
- Khalid Ismail, a businessman taking a tea-break in the capital Kuala Lumpur: "When you press people too much, they will reach their limits and retaliate."
- Suri Rahmat, 45, out shopping with her children in Kuala Lumpur: "I pity those who died . . . but the Americans have been harassing other countries and they do practice double standards . . . like in Iraq."
- Mona Yahya, 29, a banker: "Of course I feel sad about the people who died, but I believe America has gotten what they deserved."
- Maisuharah Basaruddin, 23, accountancy student: "If you want to compare what Israel has done against the Palestinians, it is 10 times worse than what the Muslim terrorists, if they are behind it, have done to the US now."
- A prominent Shiite cleric in Kuwait, Sheikh Abdul Aziz Abdullah al-Habib, condemned the attacks but said the United States should revise its foreign policy, especially in regard to the Middle East.

In an attempt to put politics aside, major Muslim groups defended their faith:

- "To kill innocent men, women and children is a horrible and hideous act (of) which no monotheistic religious approves," said the imam of Al Azhar, Sheikh Mohammed Sayed Tantawi, the top authority for millions of Sunni Muslims.
- "Islam is a religion of tolerance which disapproves of violence and injustice" said Ahmed Omar Hashem, the president of Al Azhar University.
- "We condemn these savage and criminal acts which are anathema to all human conventions and values and the monotheist religions, led by Islam," said the Organization of the Islamic Conference, which groups 57 Muslim states.

Many in the increasingly atheistic West may find religion an absurd base for enmity. But while in Europe clerics are lamenting the end of Christianity as a major force in people's lives, US politics are unashamedly Christian.

President George Bush himself, perhaps inadvertently, brought religion into the equation in his address to the nation when he quoted the 23rd Psalm: "Yea though we walk through the valley of the shadow of death we will fear no evil . . ."

The executive director of the Malaysian Strategic Research Center, Abdul Razak Baginda, tried to put the political and religious elements into context.

AFP

Why is the US the top target of extremists?

JERUSALEM—When hijacked US planes crashed in a frenzy of terror strikes, suspicion instantly focused on Islamic extremists in general, and Osama bin Laden in particular.

The US government hasn't said who is responsible, but the attacks and the subsequent suspicion beg the question: Why are Islamic terrorist groups so fiercely determined to hit the United States?

Four broad US policies toward the Middle East have put them in confrontation with various sectors of the Muslim world, though some receive scant attention. They are:

- US troops in Saudi Arabia.

American forces arrived at the invitation of King Fahd to guard his oil-rich but militarily weak kingdom after Iraq invaded neighboring Kuwait in 1990. The US troops led the 1991 Gulf War campaign that drove out Iraq, and thousands of American servicemen remain in Saudi Arabia.

For Bin Laden, the multimillionaire son of a Saudi construction magnate, the presence of US troops in a country that houses Islam's holiest shrines has been perhaps the most powerful motivation for his anti-American attacks.

"If someone can kill an American soldier, it is better than wasting time on other matters," Bin Laden said in 1997.

King Fahd and the rest of the Saudi royal family are aware of the extreme sensitivity of hosting US troops, now based in remote desert locations in order to reduce their visibility.

The United States says the troops are necessary to enforce the no-fly zone in southern Iraq and to deter Iraqi leader Saddam Hussein from threatening his neighbors and their large oil reserves.

But Bin Laden and other extremists say the Western forces in Saudi Arabia are a modern version of the Crusades of 11th to 13th centuries, and they say the aim is to drive the "Jews and Crusaders" from the region.

In a previous attack blamed on Bin Laden's organization, suicide attackers rammed a bomb-laden rubber boat in to the USS Cole last October in Aden, Yemen, killing 17 American sailors.

- US-led sanctions and bombing raids against Iraq.

Due to the extreme hardships suffered by ordinary Iraqis over the past 11 years, the sanctions campaign against Iraq has lost much of its international support.

Successive US presidents have said Iraq could end its suffering if Iraqi leader Saddam Hussein would cooperate with UN weapons inspectors, as he pledged after his lopsided defeat in the Gulf War.

With international enthusiasm lagging, the United Nations revamped the sanctions to ease restrictions on the civilian economy, while still seeking to prevent Saddam from rebuilding his Army or manufacturing weapons of mass destruction.

However, Saddam refused the deal and the stalemate drags on.

Many Muslim states also regard Saddam as a major threat to regional stability. However, large parts of the Islamic world consider the sanctions campaign too harsh, and believe the West has not been sensitive to the suffering of Iraqis.

AP

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PER DTI-NCR PERMIT NO. A3-498 SERIES OF 2001

Refugees a security risk, says Australia

SYDNEY—Australia yesterday cited the devastating terrorist attacks in the United States as justification for its own hardline stance against asylum-seekers.

Defense Minister Peter Reith described the US terror attacks and security risks posed by asylum-seekers as a major factor in Canberra's refusal to accept more than 430 refugees now at the epicenter of a court battle pitting the government against a group of human rights lawyers.

The government was seeking Thursday to overturn court orders allowing the entry of the group of mainly Afghan boat people into Australia.

The refugees' plight received worldwide attention after they were picked up by a Norwegian freighter from a sinking Indonesian ferry and Australia refused permission for them to land on Christmas Island, an Australian territory in the Indian Ocean.

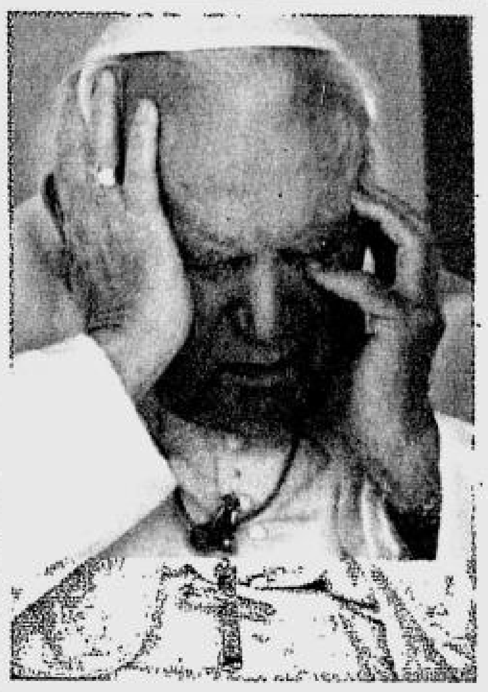
The central tenet of the government's case is that Australia had the right to refuse entry to unauthorized arrivals for security reasons.

"You've got to be able to control that otherwise it can be a pipeline for terrorists to come in and use your country as a staging post for terrorist activities," Reith told commercial radio here.

Federal Court Justice Anthony North ruled earlier this week the asylum-seekers at the center of the case had been illegally detained by Australian troops offshore and should disembark here by Friday.

The government lodged an appeal, which was underway Thursday before three Federal Court justices sitting in Melbourne.

As the case proceeded, Reith said the unauthorized entry of boat people to Australia—assisted by people smugglers operating illicitly in neighboring Indonesia—had become a national security concern. *AFP*



ANGUISHED APPEAL REUTERS

A saddened Pope John Paul II, in what is believed to be an unprecedented gesture, opened his weekly audience Sept. 12 by making a strong, emotional and lengthy appeal regarding the attacks in the US, saying that the "spiral of violence" must not prevail.

Mideast death toll tops 800

JERUSALEM—The death toll of almost a year's unrest in the Middle East topped 800 Thursday as Israel tanks and troops raided a string of Palestinian towns, while US Secretary of State Colin Powell told both sides to use the tragedy in his country as a catalyst to renew peace talks.

Three Palestinians were shot dead and 13 others injured as Israeli forces forced their way into West Bank towns overnight, Palestinian security sources said.

The reported fatalities occurred during an Israeli military incursion in the northern West Bank town of Jenin, launched in retaliation for the killing of an Israeli settler woman the evening before.

The Israeli tanks and bulldozers ploughed down the local government headquarters in the autonomous Palestinian town, the officials said.

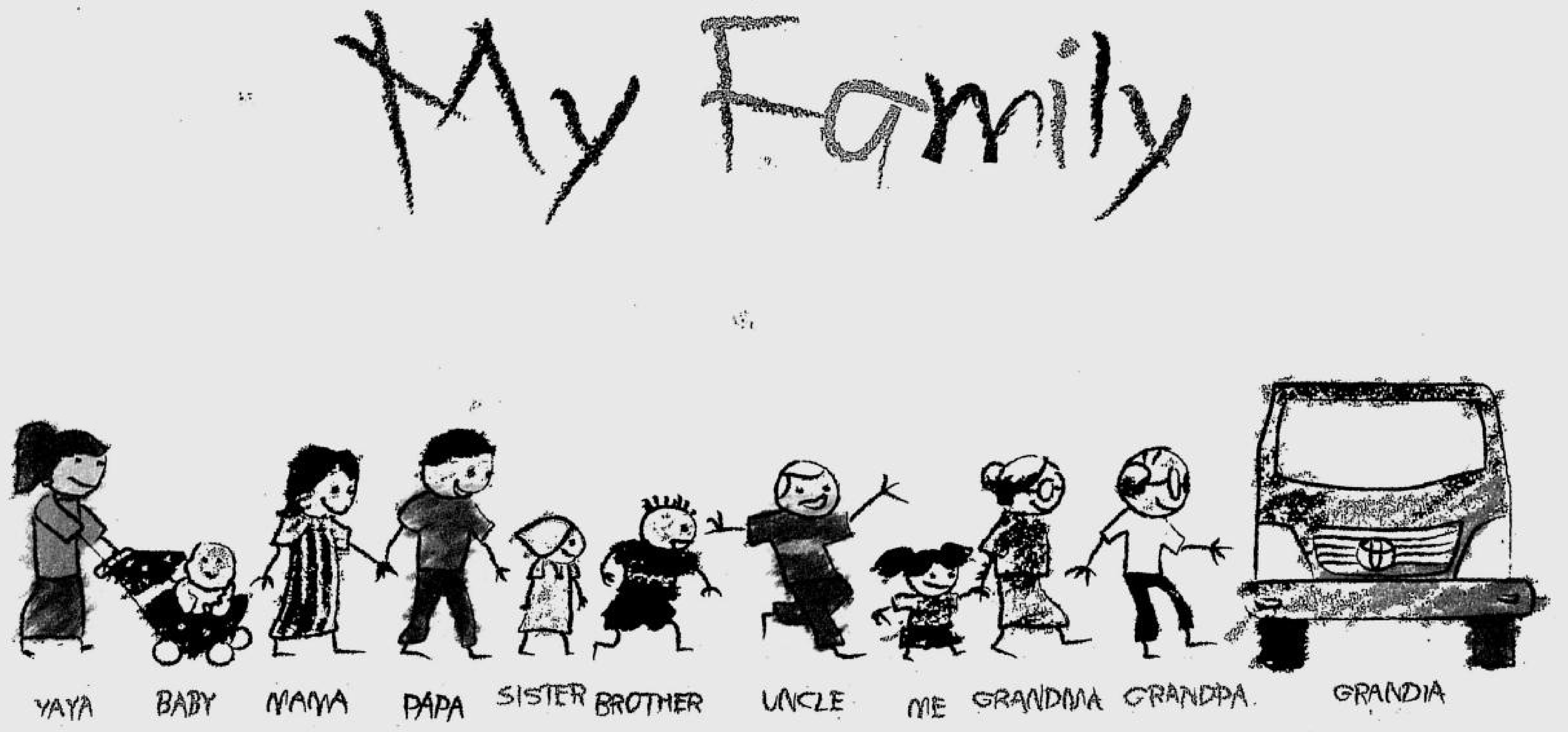
It was the second Israeli raid on Jenin in two days. On Wednesday, 10 Palestinians were killed by Israeli troops during armed incursions into areas in and around the town.

Meanwhile, Israeli troops, supported by tanks and helicopters, took control of the Palestinian-ruled city of Jericho in the West Bank Thursday, also entering under cover of night, Palestinian security forces said.

Sporadic gunfire could still be heard after the Israeli forces moved into the autonomous zone around Jericho in simultaneous incursions from the city's north, south and east, the Palestinian sources said.

All the Palestinian security offices are located in the Palestinian headquarters in Jericho, near the Jordanian border by the Dead Sea, according to sources.

The tanks entering from the south worked their way up to the gates of the key Palestinian security base, while the other two units deployed in the town center. *AFP*



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Ambush breaks ceasefire

CAMP SIONGCO, Maguindanao—Suspected Moro rebels ambushed a military vehicle in a remote village of Barira, Maguindanao early yesterday, killing an Army commander and two of his men.

Six of the attackers, allegedly belonging to the Moro Islamic Liberation Front (MILF) were also killed in a firefight that ensued after the ambush, four days after a localized ceasefire was implemented according to the military.

Malacañang brokered the localized ceasefire in Maguindanao between rival families belonging to the MILF and the Moro National Liberation Front, after clashes dragged the military and the MILF itself.

Army Maj. Julieto Ando, spokesperson of the Army's 6th Infantry Division based here identified the slain government troopers as Army 1Lt. Gerbert Lapada, a graduate of Class 1999 of the Philippine Military Academy and commander of the Charlie Company of the 64th Infantry Battalion, a Sergeant Quitos and a Pfc. Arandilla.

The body of one of the slain rebel and an M-16 Armalite rifle was recovered by soldiers, who repulsed the attackers.

The wounded Army men were Sgt. Villasis, Cpl. De la Torre, Pfc. Tacatao, Pfc. Herrera, Pfc. Marcelo and a Pfc. Escarza.

Ando said the soldiers were going to their command post in Barangay Tugaig, Barira when the suspected rebels, numbering about 20, fired at them in Barangay Nabalawag around 8:30 in the morning.

However, the MILF quickly denied any involvement in the ambush.

"It was a fight between soldiers and armed civilians whom the Army encountered in a firefight on Aug. 14," Kabalu told the INQUIRER.

He said the MILF was already expecting that the military would pin the blame on the guerrillas.

Kabalu said the MILF welcomes any effort to investigate the ambush, if only to prove that they have nothing to do with it.

"Of course, any investigation is most welcome because that would help us clear our name from these malicious accusation by the military," he said.

Aside from the ambush, Ando said the MILF was also responsible for harassing civilians in Datu Piang and Shariff Aguak towns, also in Maguindanao.

He said on Tuesday evening, about 30 rebels, led by a Commander Talio Silongan, entered the village of Alonganan in Datu Piang and ordered the villagers to vacate their homes. After a while, the rebels razed their houses.

On Wednesday afternoon, a 60-mm mortar landed in the town center of Shariff Aguak, a few meters away from the house of Maguindanao Gov. Andal Ampatuan.

However, Ampatuan's spokesperson Omar Macabangen said no one was hurt in the explosion.

Kabalu likewise denied the allegations and said the MILF was respecting the truce that began on Monday.

"We are religiously observing the truce," Kabalu said. ***Edwin Fernandez with a report from Allan Nawal, PDI Mindanao Bureau***

WEATHER FORECAST

FORECAST: Luzon will experience partly cloudy to cloudy skies with scattered rainshowers and thunderstorms. The rest of the country will be partly cloudy to at times cloudy with isolated rainshowers or thunderstorms.

SOURCE: PAGASA

Metro Manila	Partly Cloudy with Rains	HI 33° Lo 24°
Baguio	Partly Cloudy with Rains	HI 24° Lo 15°
Tuguegarao	Partly Cloudy with Rains	HI 32° Lo 21°
Laoag	Partly Cloudy with Rains	HI 32° Lo 24°
Clark Zone	Partly Cloudy with Rains	HI 31° Lo 23°
Tagaytay	Partly Cloudy with Rains	HI 31° Lo 21°
Legazpi	Partly Cloudy with Rains	HI 32° Lo 24°
Calapan	Partly Cloudy with Rains	HI 32° Lo 23°
Bacolod	Partly Cloudy	HI 32° Lo 25°
Roxas	Partly Cloudy	HI 32° Lo 25°
Cebu	Partly Cloudy with Rains	HI 32° Lo 24°
Tacloban	Partly Cloudy	HI 32° Lo 25°
Gen. Santos	Partly Cloudy	HI 32° Lo 24°
Zamboanga	Partly Cloudy	HI 32° Lo 25°
Cagayan de Oro	Partly Cloudy	HI 32° Lo 23°
Davao	Partly Cloudy	HI 31° Lo 24°

Compiled by: Ray Loyesa, PDI Research/09/14/01

Palace vows safe release of hostages

COTABATO CITY—A Malacañang official has assured the safe return of two Chinese hostages without payment of ransom amid threats from the hostages' abductors to kill them if a military rescue mission is launched.

The assurance was issued Wednesday by Presidential Adviser for Southern Mindanao Jesus Dureza, who said "efforts" from various sectors to rescue Chinese Wang Zhung Li and a Chinese-Filipino companion, Edwin Lim of Davao City, are ongoing.

Dureza said the government is now extra cautious in conducting search and rescue operations against the heavily armed kidnappers following the death of two Chinese nationals, who were reportedly killed by their captors at the height of a firefight with government forces in Columbio, Sultan Kudarat on Aug. 19.

He stressed that the no-ransom policy of the government stays while the police and military will continue to hunt the kidnappers, who are believed holed up in the Liguasan Marsh area of Maguindanao, North Cotabato and Sultan Kudarat.

"We remain steadfast with the no-ransom policy, (because) we don't want this to become a cottage industry as more people would be encouraged to go into this illegal activity," Dureza said.

"But efforts to rescue them (hostages) continue," he said, adding that "the military part of the activity is—to track them down."

"Of course, there are also other backroom channels being used in order to bring the hostages back home safely," he added.

Dureza, who also heads the government panel negotiating peace with the Moro Islamic Liberation Front, did not identify these channels but he appeared hopeful that Wang and Lim would be freed soon.

MILF spokesperson Eid Kabalu said the group's assistance had been sought for the safe release of the kidnap victims, who were reportedly seen kept in an MILF camp.

Kabalu denied that the kidnappers and their captives have taken refuge in MILF-occupied territories.

"If this is so, we could have presented them (hostages) to the authorities because we honor and respect the ongoing peace negotiation with the government," Kabalu said. *Charlie Señase, PDI Mindanao Bureau*

Cable thieves strike again

DAGUPAN CITY—Telecommunication companies here are besieged by cable thieves who cut cable lines and sell copper wires to junkyards in the city.

For the fifth time this year, the four cable lines of Digital Telecommunications (Digitel) Co. traversing the Quintos Bridge over Pantal River had been stolen, affecting business operations in the downtown area.

The lines connect 1,800 subscribers in the city's business area, including banks, national and local government offices, hospitals, the fire department and other establishments.

It was also learned that cable lines of the Philippine Long Distance Telephone Co. had also been stolen last August.

Romeo Ranay, vice president of Digitel's north commercial operations, said cables at Quintos Bridge were stolen in February, in July, twice in August, and the latest on Sept. 9.

It takes two to three days to restore operations in the area served by the stolen cables, "so you can just imagine the business and opportunities lost when cables are stolen," Ranay said.

He said thieves cut the lines from one end of the bridge to the other end, about 60 meters long. There are four cable lines across the bridge so 240 meters of cables are lost every time the thieves strike, he said.

He said thieves make easy money from the cables because the copper wires are sold at P50 a kilo. A meter-long wire weighs about a kilo so every time thieves steal cables at Quintos Bridge, they make about P7,000, he said.

Telephone cables are bought at P800 a meter, and the cost of the lines and labor is hurting telecommunication companies, he said.

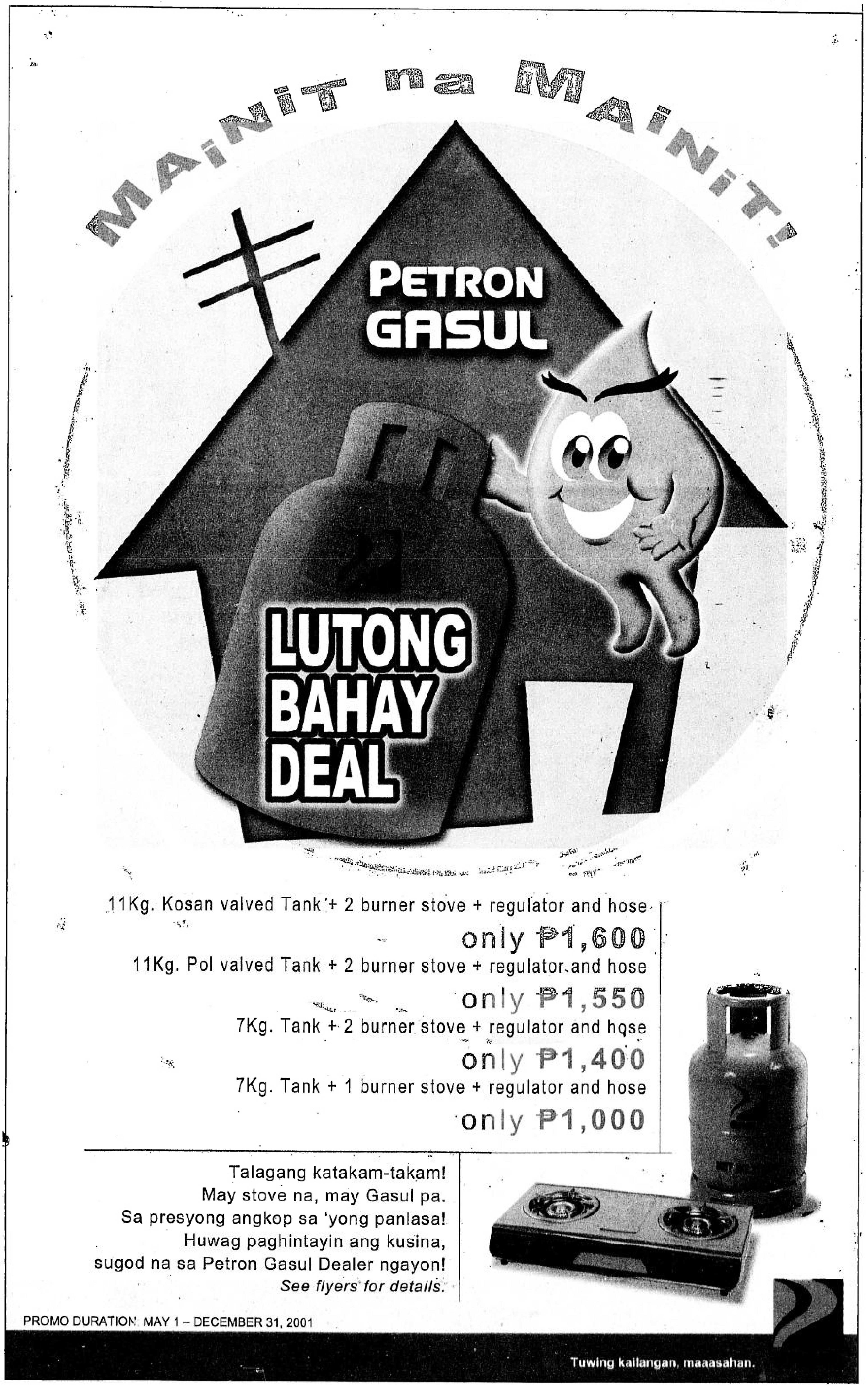
"They work fast. We installed an alarm that sends signals to the office when the cables are being cut. But when we get to the place, the thieves are gone with the cables," Rolex de Leon, Digitel's area commercial operations manager for Pangasinan, said.

The cable thefts do not happen only in this city but also in other towns. In Malasiqui, a central Pangasinan town, cables were stolen twice in a row in the last two months.

The company had to cancel its operations in Bugallon, a western Pangasinan town, after the cables there that served 800 subscribers were cut five nights in a row.

De Leon said every time the cables were stolen, "we immediately re-established the connection, and the cables are stolen again."

He said the community could have been duped by thieves who use vehicles similar to the service vehicles of Digitel. "Their vehicles had the company name and logo painted on them, so the residents could be thinking that it was still the Digitel people doing overtime work," he said. *Yolanda Fuertes, PDI Northern Luzon Bureau*



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Alvarez suspends environment exec

ILAGAN, Isabela—Environment Secretary Heherson Alvarez has ordered the indefinite preventive suspension of a Provincial Environment and Natural Resources Officer here for command responsibility due to the reported rampant illegal logging in coastal Dinapigue town.

Alvarez ordered the suspension of Romualdo Villador after receiving reports that he failed to curb illegal logging in Dinapigue, one of the few remaining virgin forests in the province.

During his visit here last week, Alvarez also ordered his men to look into complaints that some environment workers and policemen conspire with illegal loggers in Dinapigue.

He vowed that there would be a regionwide revamp in the Department of Environment and Natural Resources to maintain "efficiency and effectiveness" among its officials and workers.

Senior Supt. James Andres Melad, Isabela police director, earlier relieved Chief Insp. Arthur Arconsil, Dinapigue police chief; SPO3 Carlo Valenzuela, SPO1 Romulo Corpuz and SPO1 Dionisio Martin after they were accused of conspiring with environment personnel in Dinapigue in illegal logging.

The policemen were assigned either to the 1st provincial mobile group or the police training center. Melad initiated the transfer to "restore police credibility in the area." Arconsil was replaced by Senior Insp. Arsenio Segundo.

The reported illegal logging has endangered potential natural tourism and recreation sites in the area as Dinapigue's virgin forest is located within the Sierra Madre natural park, a 45-km radius protected area.

The protected area covers Dinapigue to Palanan town, parts of the mountainous area of Ilagan and San Mariano towns, and Maconacon town.

Dinapigue is the only coastal town in Isabela which is accessible by land transport unlike Palanan, Maconacon and Divilacan which could only be reached by a 35-minute light plane ride, boat ride or three to four-day hike along the Sierra Madre mountain ranges.

Varied wood species, wild jade vines and orchids abound in the town's mountains aside from wild pigs and chickens, monkeys, cloud rats, the Philippine eagle and different types of birds. *Villamor Visaya Jr., PDI Northern Luzon Bureau*

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A child raises a fist during the Baguio leg of the nationwide rally for a P125 increase in daily wages, drawing curious and amused stares from some of the rally participants.

Smuggled parrots seized

GENERAL SANTOS CITY—The local Maritime Police Command here recently seized 16 imported parrots that were transported without permits.

The birds were smuggled in here from Indonesia and were scheduled for shipment to Zamboanga City on board the ship MV Ezequiel Moreno of Negros Navigation when confiscated by the local maritime police.

The parrots were discovered when the maritime police inspected two boxes carried by a porter.

During the verification, a certain Ramil Sali of Zamboanga City and Ronelo Lomocso of 1st Road, Barangay Calumpang here, showed up claiming to be the owners of the smuggled parrots. But they failed to present documents allowing the birds' importation, prompting the maritime police to confiscate the birds.

The maritime police said they will turn over the confiscated birds to the Department of Environment and Natural Resources.

The selling of smuggled parrots from Indonesia has been a lucrative business here.

Along the national highway, particularly in front of Notre Dame of Dadiangas College here, Indonesian parrots are being sold from P1,000 to P2,500 each. *Aquiles Zonio, PDI Mindanao Bureau*

More cops to secure Espinosa slay trial

MASBATE CITY—The police regional office in Bicol is sending more policemen to this city in preparation for the Sept. 18 preliminary court hearing here against 12 suspects in the Aug. 10 fatal shooting of Masbate City Mayor Moises Espinosa Jr.

Senior Supt. Antonio Enteria, regional chief of staff and acting Masbate provincial director, said he had also requested a V-150 armored personnel carrier and other vehicles. The vehicles are now on their way here.

Enteria said seven suspects in the killing of Espinosa had been detained in specially made cells that are under heavy guard inside the same compound where their victim had been buried.

Five others are still at large.

The suspects are facing cases of multiple murder and attempted multiple murder.

Enteria added that he had also ordered his men, especially members of the Task Force Espinosa, to practice their shooting to improve their marksmanship.

He said these elaborate security measures are being resorted to because of fears violence would mar the trial.

He said the five suspects who are still at large are capable of disrupting the trial.

Police arrested Masbate provincial jail warden Charlie Quidato, his younger brother Isagani and Ramil Ayque in connection with the Espinosa murder.

Isagani and Ayque are jail guards.

The four others are Ronald Boncaras, Alberto Choy, Alex Alteza and Alexander Bermoy who are all inmates of the Masbate provincial jail.

They are now detained at the Espinosa mansion compound in Barangay Tugbo here. *Roly Embile, PDI Southern Luzon Bureau*

Inmate's escape, killing ordered probed by gov

BY NESTOR BURGOS JR.
PDI Visayas Bureau

SAN JOSE, Antique—The provincial government is investigating the fatal shooting of an inmate who escaped from the Antique provincial jail on Aug. 29.

Gov. Salvacion Zaldivar-Perez formed a task force last week to investigate the shooting and determine the administrative liability of jail personnel.

Provincial administrator Manuel Salazar, head of the four-member task force, said the governor gave them until Sept. 15 to conduct an investigation on the escape and killing of inmate Hilario Embalsado, 28.

"We hope to pin down (the person) responsible for the prisoners' escape," said Salazar.

Five jail guards led by Rodolfo Abancio shot dead Embalsado about 3:50 p.m. on Aug. 29, hours after he escaped with inmates Alejandro Molova, 24, and Angelito Francisco, 22.

The escape happened a day before Embalsado's scheduled arraignment for murder, said Virgilio Daquila, acting jail warden.

Molova and Francisco were detained for robbery and murder.

The three inmates were the designated cleaners on that day. They fled to separate directions from the jail compound at 6 a.m. after asking permission from jail guards to throw garbage outside the compound.

Molova and Francisco later surrendered to pursuing jail guards and members of the San Jose policemen.

Embalsado was spotted in a forested area less than a kilometer away from the compound. The jail guards reportedly fired warning shots but Embalsado continued to run.

When he allegedly tried to fight back, the jail guards shot him, said Daquila. Embalsado suffered three gunshot wounds in the back.

"He was seen holding an iron handle of a water pump," Daquila said when asked if the slain inmate had a weapon.

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Rebs charged with bet's killing

CANLAON CITY—The Municipal Trial Court in Cities has recommended the filing of multiple murder charges against two suspected communist rebels for the ambush-slaying of Canlaon City vice mayor and mayoral candidate Jose Cardenas, his sister and four of their companions last April.

In a 12-page resolution, MTCC Judge Hector Barillo said he found probable cause to file charges against Anthoni Arbuis and Juven Gonzales in court.

He recommended the issuance of arrest warrants against the two alleged members of the New People's Army who are still at large.

Barillo, however, said charges against Julius Amador, Cardenas' lone opponent in the May 14 elections, and his five supporters should be dropped because there was no sufficient evidence to prove their participation in the ambush.

The five were identified as Isidora Bautista Jr., Beverly Canada, Beatriz Justiniani, Mario Canoy and Eleuterio Santos.

The resolution is still subject to a review by the provincial prosecutor's office.

About 12 armed men fired at the Isuzu pick-up carrying Cardenas, mayoral candidate of Lakas-NUCD, and his companions about 4 p.m. of April 27 in Sitio Pinamintigan, Barangay Budlasan, about five kilometers from the Canlaon City proper.

The victims were on their way home from a political rally in Sitio Bulacan when waylaid by the armed men.

Also slain in the attack were Jessica Cardenas, Jose's sister and a councilor of Canlaon; Canlaon City Councilor Hospicio Condes Jr., the spokesperson of the Lakas-NUCD in the city; and Calvin Neri, Ricardo Oka and Telesforo Fajardo.

Five persons were wounded in the attack. They were Jimmy Clerigo, Cardenas' running mate; Nick Malones, Ramil Salazar, Cherry del Leonardo and Julius Escala.

The NPA had owned up the ambush, claiming that Cardenas was killed because of his "sins against the people."

But the Cardenas family expressed belief that hired killers, and not the NPAs, were the perpetrators of the ambush.

During the May 14 elections, the mayoral seat of Canlaon was hotly contested between Jose (Lakas-NUCD) and Amador (Nationalist People's Coalition).

Amador had denied any hand in the killing of his political opponent, saying he did not know anything about the ambush. He also denied knowing anyone among the assailants of Cardenas.

He said he knew of the murders only from reports in newspapers.

Amador was later defeated by Judith Cardenas, who replaced her slain husband in the mayoral race.

Cardenas was one of the victims of violence in the May 14 elections.

Dozens of other candidates, their supporters and people caught in the crossfire were killed during the campaign leading up to the elections.

Critics had described the elections as one of the most violent and chaotic the country ever had.

Communist guerrillas also made a killing during the campaign, collecting campaign fees from candidates who want to enter so-called guerrilla territories. *Romy Amarado, PDI Visayas Bureau*

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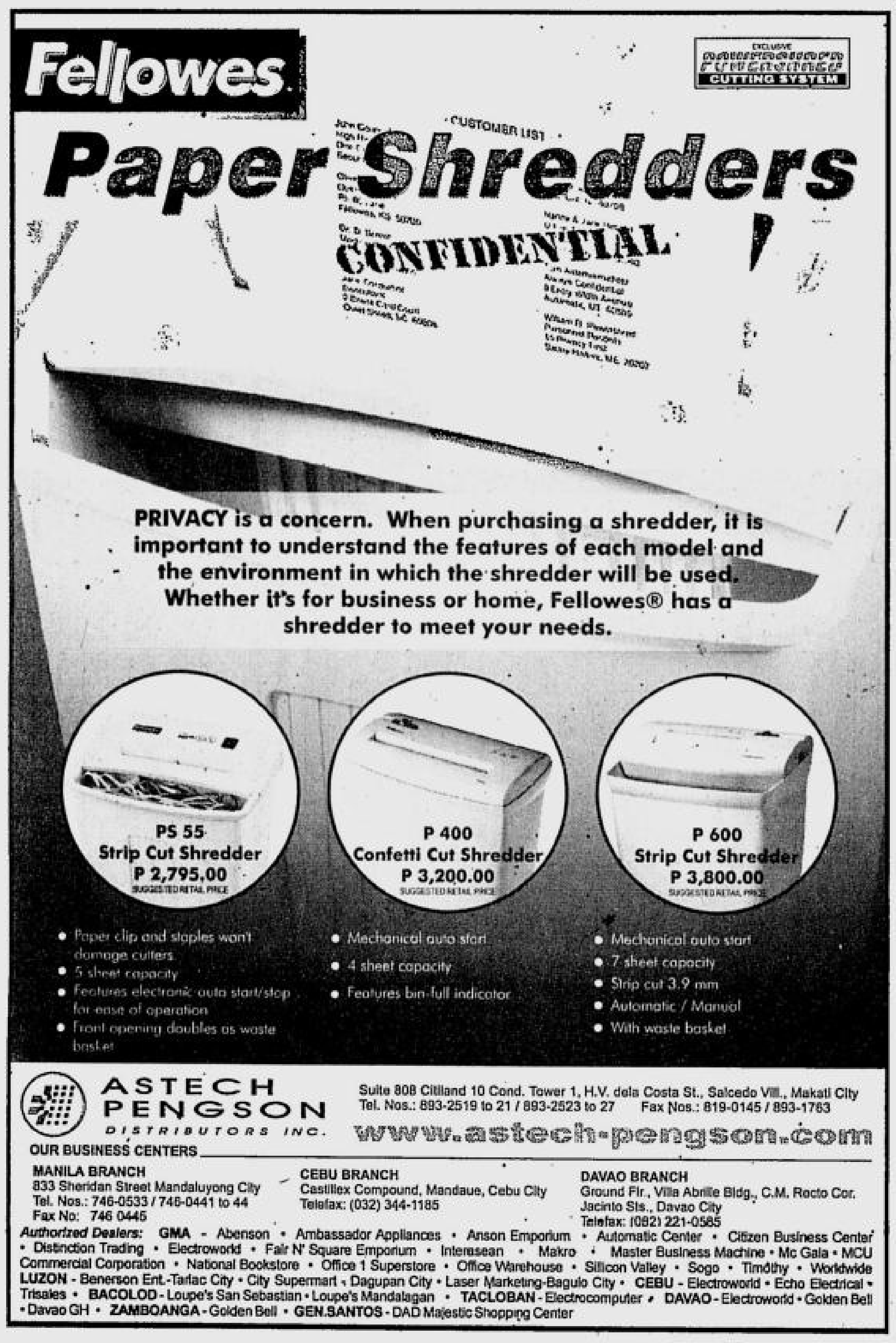
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DPWH says farms worsen erosion

BAGUIO CITY—The conversion of forest areas in Benguet into vegetable farms has caused soil erosion along the Halsema Highway, one of the major roads in the province, according to the Department of Public Works and Highways.

Engr. Constante Sarmiento, chief of the DPWH-Benguet District, cited findings that soil erosion along the Halsema Highway had worsened when more Benguet pine trees were cut to pave the way for vegetable farms in the 1960s.

He also said soil erosion on Kennon Road, another major road network in the Cordillera, had led to serious vehicular accidents and landslides.

Based on the soil analysis conducted by the Bureau of Soils, the soil condition of the Halsema Highway has become worse because vegetable farmers use fertilizer and pesticides that make the soil acidic.

Agriculturist Mariano Kuan said top soil in the vegetable towns of Atok, Buguias, Bakun, Kabayan, Kapangan, Kibungan and Mankayan, all in Benguet, was found "very acidic."

"If the soil is acidic due to too much fertilizer, the soil loosens (up)," Kuan told the INQUIRER.

The planting of cabbage, carrots and lettuce is the major source of income among farmers in Benguet, considered as the country's salad bowl.

But these vegetables are planted on light soil, which is easily washed out during heavy rains, Kuan said.

Engr. John Marquez, acting chief of the maintenance division of the regional DPWH, said the cutting down of Benguet pine trees in Atok to pave the way for vegetable farms had triggered soil erosion there.

A feasibility study conducted four years ago identified Atok as a high-risk area because its soil is prone to landslide and erosion.

Sarmiento said the study recommended that there should be no road widening along the Halsema Highway and that its slopes should be protected.

The World Bank is financing the rehabilitation of the 85-km Halsema Highway, which connects Baguio and Bontoc, Mt. Province. *Desiree Caluza, PDI Northern Luzon Bureau*

Mayor's backers lash at DOJ ruling

SANTIAGO CITY—Supporters of Mayor Jose Miranda assailed Justice Secretary Hernando Perez for junking a petition for review of the double murder case against the mayor.

Most residents, however, lauded the decision of one of the murder victims' relatives to recant her statement, which earlier sent five policemen to prison for two life terms each.

Miranda was accused of masterminding the killing of Elezer Tuliao and Vicente Bauzon whose charred bodies were found in Barangay Purok-ni-Bulan in Ramon town on March 8, 1996.

In his three-page resolution, Perez said the petition was found to be "patently without merit and the issues raised are unsubstantial to require consideration."

"We have carefully studied the petition and the grounds relied upon in support thereof but found no cogent reason to justify a reversal of the appealed resolution," he said.

Perez agreed with Prosecutor Leo Reyes that there is *prima facie* evidence against Miranda on the double murder charges.

He said the testimony of cashiered PO2 Rodel Maderal charging Miranda as mastermind in the double murder "is admissible against him (petitioner) as circumstantial evidence to show the probability of his actual participation in the killing of the victims."

Miranda told the INQUIRER that his lawyers would file a motion for reconsideration of the resolution of Perez.

He said he believed that with the junking of his petition for review, the justice department would act soon on his separate petition for reinvestigation.

Miranda has not been seen in public for the last two months. He only came out in public after Judge Anastacio Anghad of the regional trial court lifted the two arrest warrants against him, citing judicial flaws.

As this developed, Elizabeth Feliciano, common-law wife of victim Elezer Tuliao, recanted her testimony that had sent to prison SPO1 Wilfredo Leano, SPO1 Ferdinand Marzan, SPO1 Alexander Micu, SPO4 Emilio Ramirez and SPO1 Ruben Agustin for their alleged involvement in the killing.

The Supreme Court is reviewing the double life terms against the policemen who are at the national penitentiary in Muntinlupa City. *Villamor Visaya Jr., PDI Northern Luzon Bureau*

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Drivers take brunt of traffic tests

ILOILO CITY—Judging from the number of driver's licenses seized here and the amount of fines imposed on traffic violators, either this city has the worst drivers in the country or the most efficient traffic law enforcers.

According to the city's Traffic Management Engineering Unit (TMEU), it seized 3,885 driver licenses and collected P235,000 in fines last month.

The number was slightly higher than the 3,692 licenses taken in July and the P222,000 in fines collected in the same month.

The total number of seized licenses in both August and July was more than twice what the TMC confiscated during the same period last year.

The TMC only seized 3,428 licenses and collected P161,380 in fines for both July and August last year.

The TMEU said their accomplishment was the result of a "no-nonsense approach" in supervising traffic and in preventing snarls along the city's major routes.

Rafaelito Jamolo of the TMEU said a majority of the erring drivers willingly paid fines to get back their drivers' licenses while 74 were fined and required to attend traffic seminars.

But the drivers and jeepney owners are not happy because the traffic group's accomplishment was made at their expense.

Roberto Abellon, a member of Piston-Panay, a militant drivers' group, said the TMEU's accomplishment only showed that Iloilo City drivers were unable to follow traffic rules.

He said solving the city's traffic woes is like driving on a two-way street, where the drivers and the traffic enforcers should understand each other.

"If there are bad drivers, there are also incompetent traffic enforcers," said Abellon.

Members of the Piston complained that there seems to be no permanent jeepney stops in the city. The loading and unloading areas in the city cannot accommodate the long line of vehicles especially during rush hours.

As a result, drivers are often fined for waiting too long on the lines or obstructing the next vehicle.

Rey Cachuela, secretary general of the Iloilo City Alliance of Jeepney Drivers Association (Icada), said the accumulated fines collected by the TMEU represents punishment for the violations of all motorists, including truck and taxi drivers, and not of the jeepney drivers alone.

Some 5,000 jeepney units ply the city's major routes while 3,000 provincial jeepneys and buses discharge hundreds of passengers into its streets everyday.

The city government is currently undergoing a four-month experiment in traffic management, including rerouting of and a provision of terminal for jeepneys with provincial routes to decongest the city streets.

Being an old city, Iloilo's network of road is not enough to support its load everyday. Traffic jams are now daily occurrences here.

The Icada is one of the groups consulted by the city government to help in the traffic experiment. The experiment hopes to give a short-term solution to traffic jams in the city.

DPWH says Pinatubo diggings to resume next year

CITY OF SAN FERNANDO—Diggings on Mt. Pinatubo's crater-lake's controversial canal will resume early next year after soil studies shall have been completed, the Department of Public Works and Highways said Thursday.

Public Works Assistant Secretary Florante Soriquez announced the plan in a four-page statement clarifying the controversy on the construction of the canal on the crater's low Maraunot notch.

"A subsurface investigation is needed before more works should be done at the Maraunot notch. This should be completed before the end of this year and the works on the notch to be continued by early next year," Soriquez said in the statement.

Soriquez made the recommendation, stressing that the "situation of the trench with its vertical walls is dangerous."

He did not identify the geologists or volcanologists from the Philippine Institute of Volcanology and Seismology (Phivolcs) who "intervened" to have a one-meter wide canal and vertical side walls instead of sloping side walls that, he said, would have "ensured stability against collapse."

"Further excavation to deepen the trench may cause its collapse and put to danger the safety of the workers, including geologists who are very insistent on further deepening the trench," Soriquez said.

He said he also issued the statement to defend the DPWH design after the Phivolcs blamed the agency for the slow flow of water.

He said the canal—originally designed as four-meter wide, four-meter high and 100-meter long—was revised to one-meter wide, four-meter high and 75-meter long on the recommendation of Phivolcs chief Raymundo Punongbayan.

Soriquez explained that "contrary to Phivolcs' expectation of a big volume of flow of water from the lake, the DPWH design of the canal only aimed to maintain a safe lake level and provide an outflow channel gradually releasing water to prevent inundation of farmlands and communities adjoining the river path of lahar and water on its way to the sea."

While the design was partially revised, he said DPWH engineers "did not fail to check the slope or bottom gradient on (a) daily basis to ensure adherence to the design outflow from the crater-lake."

Punongbayan, in an earlier interview with the INQUIRER, did not question the basic design but noted a "foul-up" in the monitoring of the desired level of the slope that would allow the water, at least at one cubic meter per second, to drain out of the lake.

The canal had released an average of 0.23 cubic meters per second since Friday even as rains dumped more water on the lake starting that day.

This rate was going to delay for weeks the release of 24 million cubic meters or more than 10 percent of the lake's total volume, Phivolcs said.

The lake served as a natural dam for more than 200 million cubic meters that rains have impounded in the last 10 years after the June 1991 eruptions.

It was breached last Thursday to ease the pressure of crater-wall collapse and erase the prospects of a lake overflow or breakout of water that will trigger flash floods and lahar flows to 23 out of 31 Botolan villages.

Soriquez said that "since the water was flowing from the lake to the Maraunot River, it means that the gradient (or slope) of the trench was inclined towards the Maraunot slope of the volcano, not towards the lake as Director Punongbayan mentioned."

The INQUIRER, however, did not see Soriquez stay long on the crater unlike Punongbayan who, on Thursday, remained and checked the engineering works there.

Soriquez insisted the canal was designed to manage a "non-erodible" speed of water, which Punongbayan did not remember hearing from Soriquez during coordination meetings on the canal's design.

"Apparently, the intention now of Director Punongbayan is to cause heavy scouring of erodible materials by using a scouring velocity of water in the canal to lower the bottom of the canal further and trigger a breakout to reduce the volume of water. This is exactly what the DPWH wants to avoid," he said.

He said the present one-meter width of the canal will "not meet" the functional outflow that Punongbayan wanted. *Tonette Orejas, PDI Central Luzon Desk*

2 killed as bus flips over

PLARIDEL, Bulacan—Two persons were killed while 16 others were seriously injured on Thursday when a speeding Manila-bound bus skidded and turned turtle on the slippery North Luzon Expressway in Barangay Nabuag here, police said.

Police said Rudy Abanto, 40, driver of a Dagupan Bus unit, and Virginia Mison, 25, a passenger, both of Urdaneta City, died before reaching the hospital here.

Police said the accident took place after Abanto lost control of the steering wheel.

The bus, which came from Dagupan City, turned turtle and landed on the middle portion of the expressway, creating a traffic jam on the highway.

The injured passengers were taken to hospitals in the towns of Plaridel, Baliuag and Pulilan. *Carmela Reyes, PDI Central Luzon Desk*

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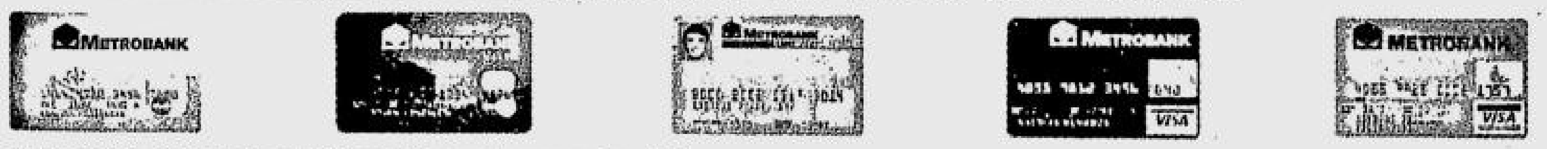

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Passengers were heroes

(From page A1)

or Camp David, the US presidential retreat.

Deena Burnett is sure her husband was involved in preventing that.

She believes that after she told her husband about the World Trade Center attacks, he and the other passengers decided to turn the tables on their hijackers.

"We may never know exactly how many helped him or exactly what they did, but I have no doubt that airplane was bound for some landmark and that whatever Tom did and whatever the guys who helped him did they saved many more lives," she said.

"And I'm so proud of him and so grateful."

"Somebody made a heroic effort to keep the plane from hitting a populated area," said Rep. John Murtha of Pennsylvania. "I would conclude there was a struggle and a heroic individual who decided 'I'm going to die anyway, I might as well bring the plane down here.'"

'Get out of here!'

CNN reported obtaining a partial transcript of chatter from the plane recorded by air traffic controllers as the jetliner approached Cleveland.

The network said tower workers heard someone in the cockpit shout, "Get out of here," through an open microphone.

A second transmission from the plane is heard amid sounds of scuffling with someone again yelling, "Get out of here!"

Next to be heard is a voice in broken English saying: "There is a bomb on board. This is the captain speaking. Remain in your seat. There is a bomb on board. Stay quiet. We are meeting with their demands. We are returning to the airport."

The microphone then went dead, CNN reported.

At that point, air traffic radar showed the plane abruptly turning 180 degrees, and heading toward Washington, D.C., according to CNN. The flight had left Newark about 8 a.m., but as it approached Cleveland, it abruptly turned back east, losing altitude and flying erratically toward the US capital.

Large red box

Another passenger, Jeremy Glick, 31, also reached his wife by cellphone. His uncle, Tom Crowley, said Glick and others among the 45 on board must have decided they would only go down fighting.

Crowley said Glick had told his wife, Liz, that the hijackers were "looking (sic) and speaking Arabic" and that they had a "large red box" they said contained a bomb.

All 38 passengers, and possibly the crew, had been herded to the back of the plane, CNN reported, recounting what Glick told his wife.

"Jeremy and the people around them found out about the flights into the World Trade Center and decided that if their fate was to die, they should fight," Crowley said. "At some point, Jeremy put the phone down and simply went and did what he could do."

According to US Attorney General John Ashcroft, each of the four planes hijacked Tuesday was seized by three to six men armed with knives and box cutters.

Investigators were still searching Wednesday through what little remained of the plane's wreckage for the voice data recorder, which could tell why the plane crashed.

Her knees buckled

In the Burnett household, the morning routine progressed throughout the calls. Deena Burnett made breakfast for their daughters, 5-year-old twins and a 3-year-old. Holding the phone in one hand, she "shooed them upstairs to get dressed and make their beds."

A friend took the children to school, and Deena, joined by local police, waited in front of the television. First came reports that another jetliner had hit the Pentagon. Then, the news that Flight 93 had crashed in a field about 130 kilometers southeast of Pittsburgh.

There were no survivors.

Her knees buckled; she wept.

Tom Burnett had been traveling on business as chief operating officer of Thoratec Corp., a medical research and development company. He and Deena had been married for nine years.

A day after the crash, it was hard for her to believe he was gone.

"When I got the ironing out to do I was ironing his clothes . . . and realized he wasn't going to be wearing them," she said.

She said her husband would "absolutely laugh to hear himself called a hero."

"He was trying to get home to his family," she said. "I know that."

Associated Press

Most massive probe in US history starts

(From page A1)

on an FBI tip, raided a Hamburg apartment where two suspects may have temporarily lived. The apartment was empty and had been thoroughly cleaned.

Authorities detained at least a half dozen people in Massachusetts and Florida on unrelated local warrants and immigration charges and were questioning them about their possible ties to the hijackers.

Mueller denied news reports that arrests had been made "at this point," but said a few people were detained for questioning because of their immigration status.

Terrorist kingpins

In a pledge to the families of victims, Mueller said, "We will leave no stone unturned until we have determined who was responsible for these attacks on our freedom."

US officials have said those who carried out the attacks may have had links to Saudi-born exile Osama bin Laden or his organization.

"This could have been the result of several terrorist kingpins working together. We're investigating that possibility," one law enforcement official, speaking on condition of anonymity, told The Associated Press.

Sen. Charles Grassley of Iowa, the top Republican on the Senate Finance Committee, said the briefing he received Wednesday from law enforcement left him with the same impression.

"Most of it today points to Osama bin Laden, but the speculation at the end of the road is that he and his network were very much involved with Hezbollah, Fatah and other" terrorist organizations, Grassley said.

The hijackers had possible ties to countries that included Saudi Arabia and Egypt, said law enforcement officials, speaking on condition of anonymity.

7,000 probers

"Our first effort is to identify any associates in the United States who might be related to the hijackers and to remove those associates, investigate and arrest, given the evidence, those individuals, and to remove any threat to the air system in the future," Mueller said.

"The second objective is to gather any and all evidence we have as to who assisted the hijackers, not only in this country but also overseas," he said.

Mueller said 4,000 special agents and 3,000 support workers—about one-quarter of those employed by the FBI—had been assigned to the investigation. More than 400 workers from the FBI crime laboratory have been sent to the sites where the planes crashed, he said.

Ashcroft, who briefed members of Congress earlier on the fast-moving probe, said investigators were obtaining passenger manifests, rental car receipts, telephone logs, and videotape from parking garages and pay phones for review and appropriate follow-up interviews.

Suicide notes

Justice department spokesperson Mindy Tucker said all the pilots used by the hijackers were trained in America at a number of different flight schools. Some had commercial licenses, and the time in the United States varied from person to person.

Tucker said the most productive avenue of the investigation so far has been the airline manifests, which have been used to identify the hijackers.

The LA Times reported at least one of the suspects receiving advanced flight training in Florida was a commercial pilot from Saudi Arabia.

Some of those involved in the plot left suicide notes, but they are not believed to have been the hijackers, a government source told The Associated Press. It was unclear whether those who left the notes actually killed themselves.

The Times said authorities believe 27 suspected terrorists received pilot training.

Two of the men who appear to have been among the hijackers of the American Airlines jetliner that slammed into the Pentagon had been placed by the FBI on a border-watch list within the past few months, but managed to enter the country due to some kind of a foul-up, Time magazine reported.

Each of the four teams of hijackers included a certified pilot, Time magazine added.

Florida

Two men who came to Florida for flight training school a year ago have emerged as suspects.

A Venice, Florida, man said FBI agents told him that two men who stayed in his home while training at a local flight school were involved in the attacks.

Charlie Voss, a former employee at Huffman Aviation in Venice, said the FBI told him one of the men was named Mohamed Atta. A student at Huffman Aviation identified the second man as Marwan Alshehhi.

Citing federal authorities, The Miami Herald reported Thursday that Atta was one of four suspects who died on American Airlines Flight 11, the first jetliner to crash into the World Trade Center.

Rudy Dekkers, Huffman's president and owner, said the two attended the school for about five months beginning in July 2000, then left to train elsewhere.

Ali said the friends referred to each other as "cousin," keeping a low profile at the school while planning to fly corporate jets in the United Arab Emirates.

In Coral Springs, also in Florida, witnesses said about 50 FBI agents and police officers Tuesday night blanketed the apartment complex that Atta had listed on his Florida driver's license. Officers interviewed neighbors and showed a photograph bearing the name Mohamed.

Video

Officials who spoke on condition of anonymity said they were investigating whether the hijackers crossed the Canadian border at a checkpoint and made their way to Boston, where two of the jetliners were hijacked and flown into the World Trade Center.

Two suspects flew from the Portland International Jetport in Maine to Boston, where they boarded the deadly flights, Maine Gov. Angus King said. The two men apparently were using New Jersey driver's licenses and left behind a rental car that was impounded and hauled to the Maine State Police crime lab.

FBI agents were reviewing surveillance tapes from the Portland airport from Tuesday morning, which city police chief Michael Chitwood said captured the two suspects in their mid-to-late 20s on video.

Storming hotel

In Boston, heavily armed FBI agents stormed a hotel looking for suspects.

Agents wearing bulletproof vests and carrying shields stormed Boston's 36-story Westin Hotel, and one person was brought out and put in a van as a crowd of evacuated guests watched.

Three people were taken into custody at the Boston hotel, then later released, according to broadcast reports and The Boston Globe website.

The Globe had reported, citing an anonymous source close to the investigation, that the three had been linked to a credit card used to buy tickets on the flights that crashed into the World Trade Center.

But a Boston TV station, also citing anonymous sources, reported Wednesday evening that the three detainees were released after it was determined that they had no connection to the hijacked flights.

AP, Reuters

New Yorkers start picking up the pieces

(From page A1)

Cranes worked in slow motion, removing stones one by one from rubble five stories high, as the smell of natural gas hung in the air.

But in signs of resilience and hope, businesses and financial markets forced to close were making plans to reopen and Mayor Rudolph Giuliani urged residents to try and resume their lives as normally as they could.

"Do things and show that you are not afraid," he said. "Show confidence in yourself and your city."

For the first time since the twin towers collapsed, reporters were allowed to visit ground zero of the catastrophe even as rescue workers dug through the rubble to find the thousands feared buried.

'Dante's Inferno'

The devastation spread for blocks in every direction from where the World Trade Center once stood.

"It's burning inside, it's like Dante's Inferno," said rescue worker Giuseppe Sergi. "There is fear that the temperature is too high, so the metal may still collapse."

A glass skyway that once connected the World Trade Center with the neighboring World Financial Center lay in jagged shards on a highway below.

Rescue dogs—German shepherds and golden retrievers—clambered over the debris and workers readied a dozen 20-centimeter-high robots to search air pockets under the debris.

Firefighters wielded cameras and listening devices attached to long poles that could be shoved into crevices.

Only about seven stories of the north tower remained, its girders bent outward. The south tower was a two-story-high heap of rubble.

National Guardsmen guarded the ruins.

"I never thought I'd see the World Trade Center pass by me in a dump truck," said Craig Chester, a volunteer whose uncle was missing.

Joe Meyers, a nurse, said he had treated more than 30 rescue workers, mostly for eye injuries from the dirt.

Nurses hung bags of saline solution from a broomstick and used it to rinse workers' eyes.

A few blocks away, corner markets still had fruit neatly stacked in pyramids out front. The produce was covered with soot.

'Mini-collapses'

Police and fire officials said there were problems with other "mini-collapses" among some badly damaged buildings nearby. When the towers were destroyed, the Marriott World Trade Center hotel fell with them.

Toward the end of a grueling day for rescuers, One Liberty Plaza, a 54-story building near the ruins of the World Trade Center, appeared in danger of collapsing, and the area was evacuated.

Rescue worker Michael Alvarez, 39, said he was deep underground when he was ordered to evacuate. "Somebody sounded an air horn. We were 30 or 40 guys in a chain in the pit. We came out and it looked like ants were running away," he said.

Giuliani said the best estimate was that "a few thousand" victims would be left in each building, potentially including 250 missing firefighters and police officers.

Among the missing was John O'Neill, head of security for the World Trade Center and a former expert on terrorism of the Federal Bureau of Investigation.

The four hijacked planes carried 266 people, none of whom survived. Officials from the military services said about 150 people, mostly Army personnel, were missing in the attack on the Pentagon. There had been estimates of 800 dead, but that was discounted by Defense Secretary Donald H. Rumsfeld.

One volunteer, Peter Coppola, said he had found four dead bodies in his 24 hours of searching.

"The air down there is totally toxic," he said.

New Yorkers were told to avoid downtown Manhattan, and the financial markets were to remain closed at least until Friday.

Schools have yet to open and most sporting events were either cancelled or postponed.

Ghost town

America's most populous city resembled a ghost town, and a huge section of downtown Manhattan was treated as a crime scene and closed to all but emergency traffic.

Several tunnels and bridges in and out of the city were closed. Some 1,500 National Guard troops were deployed, and the nuclear-powered aircraft carrier, the USS George Washington, was a few miles away off the coast of southern Long Island.

Sen. Charles Schumer, a New York Democrat, said he felt "sick to my stomach" looking down at the devastation as he flew into the city.

"The beautiful tall towers that symbolize New York, they're gone, and replaced by a pile of acrid smoke," Schumer said.

Residents were jumpy, flinching at every wail of a siren. Sporadic bomb threats were reported throughout the city.

But Guiliani said: "Don't feel locked in. The reality is we're going to go on with our lives. We're not only going to rebuild, we're also going to come out stronger than we were before."

The rubble at the World Trade Center was taken by boat to a former Staten Island garbage dump, where the FBI and other investigators searched for evidence.

Joe Allbaugh, head of the Federal Emergency Management Agency, toured the site of the tragedy with local and state politicians as the federal government began assessing what more could be done to help with search, rescue and restoration.

Wednesday night the Empire State Building and Pennsylvania Station were partly evacuated because of fears that bombs had been planted.

Police and Amtrak officials said both incidents were unfounded.

Doctors at two nearby hospitals reported an alarming lack of people to treat.

At the scene, said surgeon Andrew Feldman, "there were a lot of body bags, a lot of body parts."

At St. Vincent's Hospital, where hundreds of victims were treated, a sobbing Annelise Peterson walked in a daze, clutching pictures of her boyfriend and brother.

Peterson asked if anyone had seen either. No one could tell her yes.

Undying hopes

But hopes of finding survivors have not died.

Two trapped people who made pleas for help on their cell phones late on Tuesday said others were alive with them inside the nightmarish wreckage, authorities said.

"If a person is simply trapped—wasn't burned, wasn't crushed—they may be OK for five to seven days. The problem is that in this situation, many people were hit by debris," said Dr. Leonard Bakalchuk at Saint Vincent's Hospital.

Panicked family members rushed from hospital to hospital, desperately seeking missing relatives.

Weeping and supported by two friends, Daphne Bowers went to Bellevue Hospital with a small-framed picture of her missing 28-year-old daughter, Veronique.

"She called me and she said, 'Mommy, the building is on fire. There's smoke coming through the walls. I can't breathe,'" the distraught mother said. "The last thing she said was 'I love you, Mommy, goodbye,' and that was at 9:05."

Still, rescue workers said another symbol was helping them keep going: a flag that had been planted in the rubble, "just to let them know that America's not dead," firefighter Ronald Coyne said. *Reports from AP, Reuters*

White House, Air Force One were original targets

THE US government has credible information the hijacked plane that slammed into the Pentagon on Tuesday "was originally intended to hit the White House," US President George W. Bush's spokesperson said.

The White House and Air Force One, two potent symbols of the US presidency, were targets of Tuesday's suicide bombers, said Ari Fleischer, explaining why Bush did not immediately return to Washington and take clear charge in Tuesday's chaos.

He said White House aides learned this during Bush's flight Tuesday from Sarasota, Florida, to an air base in Louisiana.

"That also was one of the reasons why Air Force One did not come back to Andrews (Air Force Base), when people may have thought it would," Fleischer said. He declined to give further information about the form of threat posed to the presidential mansion and airplane.

The matter has been a point of contention, however. Several government officials, speaking on condition of anonymity, said investigators believe the plane that crashed in Pennsylvania was headed to the White House.

AP

Acid test of the 'black boxes'

THE DEVASTATING crashes of two airliners into the World Trade Center were an extraordinary test of the "black boxes" that may hold clues to the doomed jets' final minutes.

The crashes of the two Boeing 767s combined a high-speed impact into a steel-and-concrete grid, a long, intense fire and hundreds of tons of crushing weight, circumstances never anticipated in testing, experts say.

Even if the two recorders carried by each plane are intact, investigators still must find the objects—not much larger than shoeboxes—in mountains of debris.

At a news conference, New York Mayor Rudolph Giuliani held up color photos of the bright orange recorders to inform the public in case someone came across them.

Airliners carry two recorders to provide clues in case of a crash: the voice recorder, designed to capture at least the last 30 minutes of cockpit conversation, and the flight data recorder. Current US federal rules require that the devices withstand being engulfed for 30 minutes in a 2,000-degree fire, equivalent to the temperature of burning aviation fuel, and withstand a weight of 5,000 pounds for five minutes.

Also, the recorders must be able to withstand stopping within 18 inches from a speed of 400 mph, a quality that is tested by firing the devices from an air cannon.

Officials said they could not recall a crash on land in the United States where the recorders were not recovered.

AP

US a good place for terrorists to get flight training

NEW YORK—Where does a terrorist learn to pilot a plane?

There's no better place than the United States, a worldwide magnet for students looking for flight training that is cheap, fast and easily available, instructors say.

With officials now saying the attacks on the World Trade Center and Pentagon relied on terrorist pilots, possibly from overseas and trained in the United States, investigators are examining the role that may have been played by flight schools.

That comes as little surprise to aviation instructors, who acknowledge that U.S. flight schools draw scores of students from overseas, in some cases actively recruiting them. The main requirement for entry, they say, is the ability to pay.

"It's accessible to everybody as long as you have money in your pocket," said Victor Richard, a flight instructor-in-training at Alpha Tango Flying School in San Antonio, Texas.

At Alpha Tango, students from Mexico, Pakistan, Saudi Arabia and Germany study to become pilots. For about $5,000, they can earn the right to fly single-engine private planes.

There are hundreds of such schools nationwide, though only about two dozen offer training in how to fly the large jets involved in Tuesday's attack.

AP

Donations pouring in

STAMFORD, Connecticut—Donations are pouring in to aid victims' families and relief efforts.

General Electric Co. on Wednesday pledged $10 million for the families of New York firefighters, police officers and rescue workers who died trying to help victims trapped in the World Trade Center.

Computer networking giant Cisco Systems Inc. donated $6 million to the Red Cross and other relief groups. Wells Fargo & Co. pledged $1 million to the Red Cross.

Sprint said it was donating $500,000 to the American Red Cross and providing 2,300 wireless phones for disaster workers. It also said that its New York stores were providing free emergency calls, and that its pay phones in the city were being programmed to allow free outgoing calls.

"As the nation recovers, it is important for all of us to support the brave rescue workers, and we hope these contributions will allow them to do their important jobs better and faster," said Sprint chair and CEO William T. Esrey.

H.J. Heinz and the H.J. Heinz Foundation are giving $100,000 to a relief fund set up by the United Way and The New York Community Trust. Heinz also said it would send food for rescue workers.

Starting Friday, Massachusetts' grocery chain Stop and Shop Co. said it would match contributions from customers and associates.

Gladstone's 4 Fish restaurant in Malibu, California, pledged all of Sunday's proceeds to relief efforts. "We will not make a cent on that day," said Christine Lloyd, its marketing director.

Other groups, such as the New Haven-based Knights of Columbus, said they would donate $1 million for the families of victims lost during rescue efforts at both the Pentagon and the Trade Center.

The Southeastern Conference said pre-game ceremonies would be held at its college football games, with the league donating $1 million from gate receipts and TV fees to aid victims.

AP

Bin Laden's . . .

(From page A1)

you could have," he said.

Experts say bin Laden acts like the chief financial officer of a loosely affiliated organization—al-Qaeda, or the Base—with followers united by their loathing of the US.

The organization is made up of tiny cells that together make up the network, which includes the suicide bombers, the technical advisers and those who do the legwork.

One member usually does not know the identity of someone he has been asked to contact or even why he has been ordered to carry out a task.

"Someone is pulling all those pieces together, and if you compromise one cell you don't take down the entire organization," said Frank Cilluffo, a policy analyst at the Center for Strategic and International Studies.

Financial wealth

Bin Laden's wealth makes it easy for him to maintain his network, especially in regions where the US is unpopular and which have large pools of unemployed young adults.

"In the past, terrorist organizations had to turn to nation-states to provide them with the funding and resources necessary to engage in high-scale terrorism," he added. "Bin Laden filled that vacuum."

Apparently, the city of Boston in Massachusetts where the two hijacked planes that crashed into the World Trade Center originated, was a center for Bin Laden's terrorist activity.

Juliette Kayyem, a former member of the National Commission on Terrorism, said Boston has several factors that may have attracted Bin Laden's supporters.

"Our proximity to the Canadian border and Boston being a big city where people can hide is likely why Boston became the center," Kayyem said. "Also being on the Eastern Seaboard, we have wide-bodied jets with large fuel tanks. When you don't have other weapons, that's your weapon."

Family ties

Bin Laden also has strong family ties and a group of supporters in the city.

One of bin Laden's brothers set up scholarship funds at Harvard, while another relative owns six condominiums in an expensive complex in Charlestown, just outside Boston. Two bin Laden associates once worked as Boston cab drivers, including one who was jailed in Jordan on charges of plotting to blow up a hotel full of Americans and Israelis.

Bin Laden's ties to Boston are now being closely scrutinized as authorities focus their investigation on terrorist cells with possible ties to him, said Robert Fitzpatrick, the former second-in-command at the Federal Bureau of Investigation's Boston office.

Clinton could have . . .

In the last days of Bill Clinton's presidency, senior officials received specific intelligence about the whereabouts of Bin Laden. The Clinton administration then weighed a military plan to launch a strike, but ultimately opted against an attack.

The information spurred a high-level debate inside the White House in December 2000 about whether the classified information provided the last best chance for Clinton to punish Bin Laden before he left office, the officials said.

Now, nine months later, officials are discussing the incident as bin Laden's name is increasingly being connected with the suicide attacks in New York and Washington.

Military strikes

Military strikes were aimed at Bin Laden once before. After US embassies were bombed in Africa three years ago, Washington retaliated with a missile attack in August 1998, sending more than 70 Tomahawk cruise missiles into eastern Afghanistan targeting training camps operated by Bin Laden.

The attacks killed about 20 followers but Bin Laden escaped unhurt. Since then he has been forced by Afghanistan's Taliban rulers to stop giving interviews and making statements.

AP

Bush gains backing for war vs terrorists

(From page A1)

US Secretary of State Colin Powell said the President would oversee "a long-term conflict."

In particular, Bush asked Congress to find $20 billion in the tight federal budget to help rebuild and recover from the attacks, vowing to spend "whatever it takes."

Congress earlier passed a resolution declaring the country was "entitled to respond under international law."

Bush also sought to build a global alliance with phone calls to the leaders of France, Germany, Canada and Britain. He also talked twice to Russian President Vladimir Putin.

In a strong show of support, America's allies in the North Atlantic Treaty Organization declared Wednesday that the terrorist attacks in the United States could be considered an attack on the whole alliance if it turned out these were directed from abroad.

"An attack on one is an attack on all," Nato Secretary General Lord Robertson said after the decision by the 19 Nato ambassadors to invoke Article 5 of the Nato charter for the first time in the alliance's history.

The article, designed to respond to a Cold War offensive, declares an "armed attack" on any member to be an attack on all.

The decision means the United States will be able to count on its Nato partners to support any military action—if indeed foreigners outside the United States perpetrated the attacks.

"The country that is attacked has got to make the decision and has got to be the one that asks for help," Robertson said. "They have not reached that judgment as to who did it and why they did it."

European Union

In a separate show of allied solidarity, the European Union pledged Wednesday to help US authorities track down and "punish those responsible" for Tuesday's attacks.

The EU foreign ministers, at a special meeting, asked "all Europeans to observe three minutes of silence" at noon Friday. Each of the 15 EU nations will observe a "day of mourning" Friday because the attacks were "not only on the United States, but against humanity itself and the values of freedom we all share."

But Nato officials stressed there had been no discussion yet on military intervention.

"At the moment this is an act of solidarity," Robertson said, adding the declaration "in no way" binds the United States "against taking action on its own."

A senior German official said German, French, British and Israeli secret services agreed with the US intelligence assessment that Osama bin Laden was the prime suspect behind the attacks.

For its part, China did not rule out assisting any military action against the terrorists but it voiced doubts Nato was the right body to coordinate it.

"I think we will study the case when evidence is presented. Out attitude toward international cooperation against terrorism is positive," Vice Foreign Minister Wang Guangya said in Beijing.

"It all depends on the final formula," Wang added.

Time and resolve

Bush acknowledged the battle would take "time and resolve."

"This will be a monumental struggle of good versus evil," he said. "Good will prevail."

Bush toured the Pentagon, saying the devastation made him sad and angry. "The nation mourns," he said. "But we must go on." First Lady Laura Bush also visited victims in a nearby hospital.

In the day's final hours, several hundred people gathered outside the White House gates for a candlelight vigil. James Miller of Fairfax, Virginia, an American flag tied around his neck, gazed at the illuminated White House as the crowd sang the national anthem.

"We came here to support the President in whatever action he decides to take," Miller said.

High alert

US troops throughout the world were on high alert Thursday, imposing tight restrictions around American bases abroad and awaiting orders should they be called on to respond to the terrorist attacks on New York and Washington.

In a measure of the severity of Tuesday's terror, 116,000 US military personnel and their families were put on "Threat Condition Delta," the highest state of readiness and one very rarely ordered.

On Okinawa, the most important US military outpost in the Pacific, the stepped-up security was unmistakable. At the gate of one US Marine base, guards even set up a machine gun with sandbags.

But while the security was causing long delays and huge traffic jams, many residents in Okinawa City said they were ready to accept some inconveniences.

US troops in Europe and Africa undertook similar measures as well. Soon after alert orders were issued, two dozen US Navy warships left Mediterranean ports in search of the security of the high seas.

At every entrance to American bases in Europe, military police in flak jackets and helmets replaced civilian security staff. Army soldiers were put on a curfew from midnight until 5:30 a.m.

"Delta is usually the result of a direct attack, which we certainly had (Tuesday)," US Navy Capt. Brian P. Cullin said at the headquarters of the US European Command, which covers operations in Europe, Africa and parts of the Middle East.

Potential targets

Tensions are high because the bases are potential targets should there be more terrorist activity, and because they are the resource pool should the United States decide to retaliate with military force.

In Asia, there are roughly 51,500 American troops in Japan, and some 37,000 in South Korea. Though much smaller in scale, there also are US facilities on the island of Guam and on Diego Garcia, in the Indian Ocean.

But the US facility on a small island in southern Japan is the most crucial. Okinawa is home to the largest contingent of Marines outside the United States, with more than 15,000 troops deployed here.

Kadena Air Base, among the largest in the US Air Force, is also located here. The Navy's Seventh Fleet is based in Yokosuka, which is just south of Tokyo.

It is the only fleet with a homeport outside of the United States, and has served an important role in previous military actions in the Persian Gulf.

What the US forces might be preparing to do this time was not clear.

As a matter of policy, officials refuse to comment on ship movements and troop mobilizations. In South Korea, military officials said there were no troop movements, only beefed-up security measures.

"These are strictly forces protection measures," said Stephen Oertwig, a spokesperson for the US Forces in Korea. "It's a high level of awareness about our security."

Oertwig said there was no specific threat against the troops.

Even so, helmeted Korean policemen with rifles were posted near the gates of the US Embassy and major US military bases. Normally, South Korean policemen on such guard duty are armed only with batons.

American soldiers on guard at the main US base in Seoul were also seen with M-16 rifles on their shoulders, rather than their usual sidearms.

On Guam, officials warned that for the time being islanders wanting to enter the base could expect delays.

Because of its remote location, Guam, a US territory 6,000 kilometers west of Hawaii, is not viewed as a high risk for terrorist attacks.

"Our threat here has always been low, but at this point we are trying to be as cautious as possible," said US Navy spokesperson Lt. Monica Richardson.

Reports from AP, AFP and Reuters

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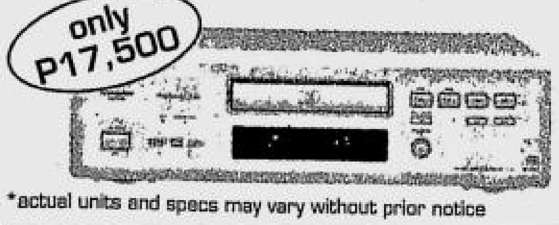

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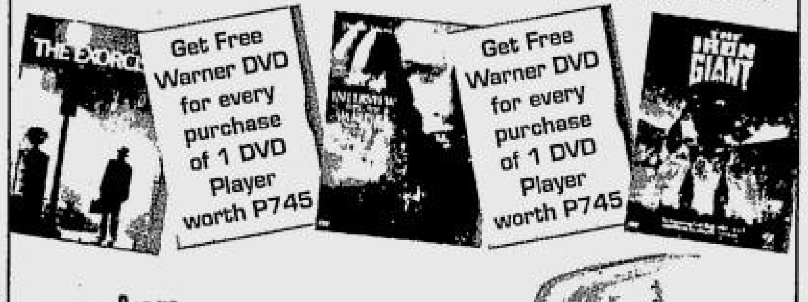

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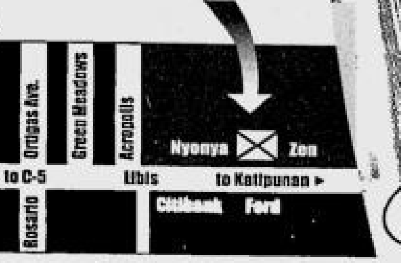

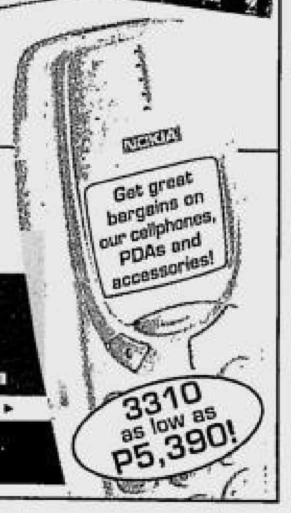

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Hollywood defers 'terror' movies

(From page A1)

content. Other networks were considering similar delays.

Warner Bros. will indefinitely postpone the release of Arnold Schwarzenegger's latest film, "Collateral Damage," in which a terrorist bombs a Los Angeles skyscraper. It was to have debuted Oct. 5.

The Tim Allen comedy "Big Trouble," in which one scene involves a bomb on a plane, was also pulled from its Sept. 21 release by Disney's Touchstone Pictures.

Both studios said they acted out of respect for victims of the terror attacks Tuesday in New York, Washington and Pennsylvania.

"Our thoughts and prayers are with those affected by this terrible tragedy," said Touchstone spokesperson Vivian Boyer.

Warner Bros. said it would retrieve all commercials, posters and ads for "Collateral Damage" and disconnect its website, all of which feature phony newspaper headlines about the fictional attack.

As for television, the biggest networks—ABC, CBS and NBC and Fox—canceled all programming and commercials after the attacks for round-the-clock news coverage. They planned to stay with the story continuously at least through Wednesday.

ABC canceled a showing Saturday of the movie "The Peacemaker," about nuclear terrorists, and replaced it with the romance "Hope Floats."

Fox replaced broadcasts of "The X-Files" movie Friday and the film "Independence Day" on Sunday with the comedies "Nine Months" and "Mrs. Doubtfire," respectively, spokesperson Scott Grogin said.

In "Independence Day," the White House and Empire State Building blow up.

Family-oriented

Fox feared such scenes could disturb many viewers. "We're looking at programming that is more family-oriented so people can watch it together," Grogin said.

On one Fox drama just six months ago, the World Trade Center was threatened. The premiere of the series "The Lone Gunman" featured a US government plot to boost arms sales by crashing an airliner into one of the towers, then blaming terrorists.

Scenes from the cockpit showed the struggle to disengage the plane's suicidally programmed navigational system. The plane managed to clear the tower by inches.

"The Lone Gunman" was quickly canceled. But among the new crop of shoot-'em-up series in the fall TV season, which starts Monday, are three—ABC's "Alias," CBS' "The Agency" and Fox's "24"—that deal with terrorism at war with the CIA.

One story line in "24" involves a terrorist blowing up a passenger plane. On the premiere of "The Agency," terrorists plot to blow up the London department store Harrods.

Entertainment events around the country were postponed or canceled. The Emmy Awards show Sunday was postponed. The Latin Grammys, to have taken place Tuesday night in Los Angeles, were canceled.

Broadway shows, closed for two days, will resume performances Thursday evening. Jed Bernstein, president of the League of American Theaters and Producers, said that before the curtains rise the theaters would dim their marquees to honor the victims.

The New York Philharmonic canceled its opening night gala Sept. 20 and will replace it with a memorial concert. ***AP***

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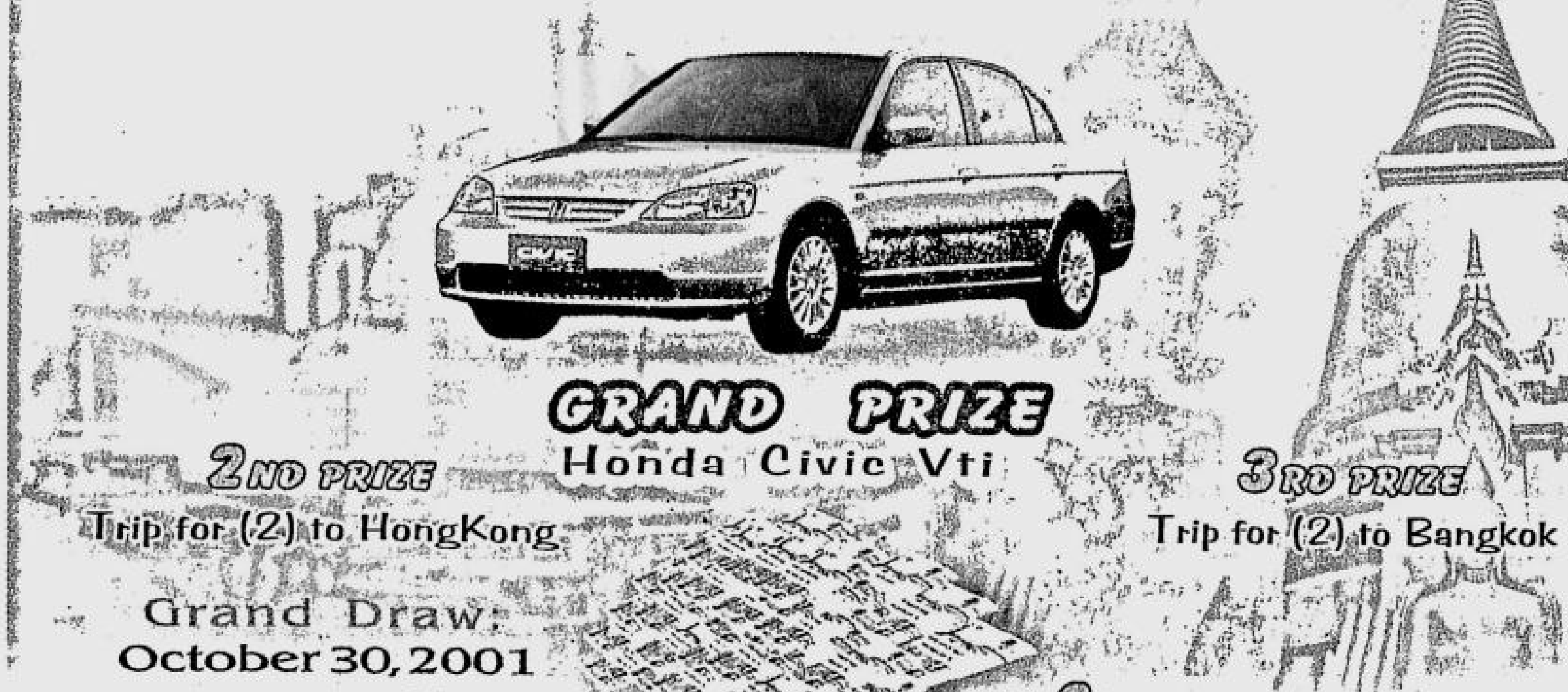

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6. A consumer may win only once in the raffle. Should his/her name be drawn more than once, he/she wins the prize with the higher value.
7. Winners will be notified by phone and via registered mail by CPPI. They may claim their prizes on or after November 15, 2001.
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13. Third prize is a trip for two (inclusive only of airfare, accommodation, and travel tax) to Bangkok. This is non-transferable and convertible to cash. Equivalent cash value will be determined based on prevailing, travel package rates at the time of the draw. All travel visa requirements are to be shouldered by the winner.
14. Trade outlets where top 3 winning entries were purchased (as specified in the personal information sheet of winning entries) will also win cash prizes as follows: Grand Prize - P200,000, 2nd Prize - P100,000, and 3rd Prize - P50,000).
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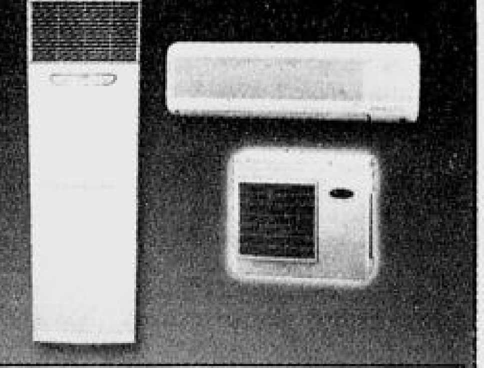

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8 Pinoys confirmed missing in New York

(From page A1)

late in New York City yesterday said.

Another Filipino was among the passengers of the United Airlines plane that rammed into one of the WTC towers, according to a relative of the victim.

The Filipino fatality in the United Airlines plane proved that Vice President and Foreign Secretary Teofisto Guingona Jr. spoke too soon when he announced that there appeared to be no Filipino casualties in the four commercial planes that slammed into the Pentagon in Washington, D.C. and the twin towers of the WTC.

But Guingona said that as of yesterday afternoon, Philippine Embassy and consulate officials were able to determine that there were "no Filipino casualties at all" in the Pentagon.

Officials are expecting a "substantial number" of Filipino casualties from the rubble of the WTC.

Deputy Consul General Teresa Lazaro of the New York Consulate identified six of the missing as Grace Alegre Cua, Hector Tamayo, Arnold Lim, Cynthia Betia, Ramon Grihalvo and Benilda Domingo.

The seventh was identified as Nectar Laurel-Galang, according to Consul General Linglingay Lacanlale. Also reported missing was Cynthia Wilson, a sister of Today subeditor Cookie Micaller. Wilson, who is married to an American, works for a telephone service company that held office on the 79th floor of the WTC.

Cua worked at Mitsui Bank on the 86th floor of the WTC building. Tamayo, a past president of the Aklanon Association USA, was an employee of the Vanderbilt Construction Center, which also held office at the WTC.

Lazaro told Bombo Radyo in Bacolod that they had no other details on the victims because their names were gathered from reports made by their relatives and friends.

Her office is coordinating with the New York authorities in the search for the missing.

Ronald Gamboa, a Filipino, was among the passengers of the United Airlines plane that slammed into the south tower of the WTC.

Harold Limbo, a reporter of ABS-CBN Bacolod, said Binky Mirasol-Sia, an aunt based in New Jersey, confirmed to him that Gamboa was one of the 65 passengers of United Airlines Flight 175 that left Boston for Los Angeles.

Only child

Gamboa, who was based in California, was a nephew of Sia's sister-in-law. He was reportedly an only child of Filipino doctors based in Kentucky.

In Malacañang, National Security Adviser Roilo Golez said many Filipinos worked at the WTC.

He said the WTC had 435 tenants from 26 countries and practically all companies were believed to have Filipino employees.

"So we expect a substantial number of Filipino casualties," Golez said.

Guingona said embassy officials had monitored five or six hospitals where the casualties were brought.

He said they were shown a list with names "indicative of Filipinos" but it also included names that were common among Mexicans, Spanish and Puerto Ricans.

"So the consulate is taking pains now to determine the nationalities because even the hospitals do not know. They were just brought there, no relatives, no identification. And unless the survivor himself becomes conscious and identifies himself as a Filipino, only then can we be definite," Guingona said.

A patient at the Washington Hospital Center has a Filipino-sounding name—Juan Cruz, who is in critical condition.

Guingona said the Department of Foreign Affairs hotlines received 30 to 50 calls from relatives every night inquiring into the status of their loved ones in the United States.

Relatives of at least 34 Filipinos working at the WTC and nearby buildings called the Department of Foreign Affairs office in Manila to say that they could not be contacted. The DFA declined to release the names of the 34.

UP graduate survives

"It felt like the end of the world. I am glad I am alive," cried Fe Geslani to her aunt, Josefina Lolarga Tamondong, on arriving home in Manhattan hours after surviving the inferno at the WTC.

Geslani, a native of Malasiqui, Pangasinan, who works as an appraiser of the American Express Bank, was in her office on the eighth floor of the WTC building No. 7 when the explosions occurred.

"Someone shouted 'Run, run,' so I calmly set my computer away before heading to the elevators," said Geslani, an economics graduate of the University of the Philippines in Diliman, Quezon City.

She said she stayed in the building for awhile until one of the tower's heads started to crumble. It was then that she started to run following the throng of people scampering in all directions.

She said she continued running without knowing where to go. She ended up on Wall Street, near the smoldering building.

Geslani said an elderly man pulled her and another woman, and the three of them clung to a concrete post. She said debris and ash started to fall.

When smoke cleared, they walked on, she said. That was when people at the New York Stock Exchange building called them inside. They stayed there until 1 p.m.

She went out and walked for more than three hours, crossing over to the Brooklyn Bridge, "still with no direction since I was just following the thousands of people just wanting to get out of the central New York City," she recounted to her aunt.

"It was like an exodus . . . throngs of people were just walking, trying to find a safe place," she said.

Reason to rejoice

Four Filipinos had reasons to rejoice for not being in their offices during the attacks.

Irma Leoung, 33, an employee of a computer firm, came in late for work. By the time she arrived at the WTC, the two towers had already collapsed.

Megan Capay, who worked for the financial firm Stanley Morgan, Dean and Witter, did not go to her office on the 74th floor of the WTC that fateful morning.

She was in a meeting in another office outside the WTC when the two commercial planes crashed into the two towers.

Minerva Novero decided to take a day off from her work at a building next to the WTC.

"When we heard the news of the buildings' collapse, we prayed she had not been in the vicinity. It took us some time to find out how she was because the lines were busy," said lawyer Renecito Novero, Minerva's sister.

He said they were just so happy to learn that she was not in her office at that time.

Marietta Chavez, another employee of one of the offices at the WTC, was not at the building either.

She normally works from 7 a.m. to 3 p.m. at the Empire Blue Cross/Blue Shield, a health insurance company, on the 23rd floor of the North Tower.

But on Tuesday, she didn't go to work—she was a volunteer poll watcher for the Republican Party.

She was at the polling place in Queens when the first plane hit the Twin Towers. By the end of the day, only four of her friends at work were accounted for.

Christine de Castro works in Lower Manhattan, not far from the Twin Towers, as an investment banker. She was working when it happened and she and thousands of other New Yorkers were on the streets minutes after it happened.

Texting updates

De Castro was texting updates to friends in Manila. At 10:23 p.m. Manila time (10:23 a.m. in New York), she texted: "Update guys. Its so gulo hre. Evrything is shut dwn. Strappd in d city. Panic is the only word I can say."

At 11:39 p.m. Manila time (11:39 a.m. in New York), she wrote: "Well things r stil in mayhem. Both wtc towers r gone! Its so ovrwhlmng. M on d streets now nd d sound of a plane flying ovrjust freaked evry1."

She walked through the chaos back to her apartment in midtown Manhattan where she was reunited with her family, minus her father.

They had the scare of their lives when her father, whose office was right next to the WTC, could not be accounted for. By late afternoon, he finally called from a restaurant where he and a few officemates made a stop to grab something to eat. They had walked from downtown to midtown because he could not get his car out of the building where it was parked. And he could not call because the landline and cell phone circuits had been jammed.

Christine was back at work the next day, if only to show that terrorism will not succeed in paralyzing life in the Big Apple. ***With a report from Juliet L. Javellana***

Not only Americans are grieving. . .

(From page A1)

mains unclear. As reports began to come in from governments trying to track down their citizens, it appeared that the toll could easily reach several hundred.

According to Japan's Foreign Ministry, roughly 100 Japanese nationals, including dozens of tourists, are unaccounted for.

There were 31 Japanese companies with branch offices in the towers.

"We are working around the clock," Yoshinori Ide, a spokesperson for Japan's Fuji Bank, said from an emergency center set up to coordinate the bank's search for 12 missing employees.

Those employees who survived the attack are calling and visiting hospitals in search of their missing colleagues, who were mostly on the 79th through 81st floors of the second tower.

So far, they have found nothing.

"We have no new information," said Yukio Yokoyama, another bank spokesperson.

Britain's casualties appeared to be even heavier.

Alistair Campbell, official spokesperson for Prime Minister Tony Blair, said that while it was difficult to predict with any certainty, "what is becoming clear is that the death toll of British citizens is likely to run into the hundreds."

That would be well above the number of victims of Irish Republican Army attacks and the 1988 bombing of a Pan Am jetliner over Lockerbie, Scotland, that killed 33 Britons.

Mixed with sadness

Initial news of those who survived was mixed with sadness.

In Ireland, television viewers listened to John Clifford tell of how his brother Ronnie, 47, escaped unscathed from the Trade Center, only to learn later that his sister Ruth, 45, and her 4-year-old daughter Juliana were in one of the planes that hit a tower.

"Tragically, my sister hit the tower building as my brother was on the ground floor. He's safe now. He's very traumatized," said Clifford, of Cork.

Another survivor was Sun Lingling, 46, who handles the China Daily newspaper's distribution in North America.

According to an interview with her in the paper, she tumbled down 33 flights of stairs, losing only a shoe. She then watched from outside as the tower where she had worked for eight years collapsed.

"It was as if a huge piece of chocolate had been melted down,"

Sun said. "I thought of friends at Morgan Stanley, whom we met during our exercises at the gym nearby. I knew it was almost impossible for them to survive."

Dozens of non-American companies had offices in the towers, including Sinochem American Holdings of China, Nikko Securities of Japan, Zim-American Israeli Shipping Co. of Israel and Cantor Fitzgerald International of London.

Most of the 36 South Koreans listed as missing were employees of firms housed there.

One, however, was a Boston University student who was aboard the Los Angeles-bound United Airlines plane from Boston that crashed into a tower.

The Foreign Ministry identified her as Kim Jisoo. South Korea's all-news cable network YTN quoted her family as saying that she was on the plane with her American husband and baby daughter.

Bracing for more

Australia's Defense Minister Peter Reith said three Australians were confirmed dead, but that he expected the toll to rise.

"We have little doubt that we will need to brace ourselves for more," he said.

One Australian who was spared was swimming star Ian Thorpe, who was planning a trip to the Trade Center when he heard about the attack.

Frank Turner, one of Thorpe's managers, said that if the attack had occurred 20 minutes later, the Olympic and world champion would have been on the viewing deck at the top of one of the towers.

"He was shocked," Turner said. "A few minutes later and who knows what could have happened?"

The Mexican government news agency Notimex reported that there were 100-150 Mexicans working in the Trade Center, and that at least 12, some of them workers at the restaurant Windows on the World, remained unaccounted for.

Mexico's consul in New York, Salvador Beltran, said it would take weeks to know the death toll. ***AP***

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SEAG BASKETBALL

Arroyo to award medals

KUALA LUMPUR
2001
SUKAN SEA XXI SEA GAMES

KUALA Lumpur—First Gentleman Mike Arroyo is expected to fly back here tomorrow from Tokyo, Japan, in time for the basketball gold medal match on Sunday in the 21st Southeast Asian Games.

Philippine Sports Commission chair. Butch Tuason said the Malaysian organizing committee has also sent an invitation to Arroyo to award the medals during the awarding ceremony.

"The First Gentleman just felt the need to return to convince the athletes to make one final push for the remaining golds," said Tuason. "He's happy with the way our athletes have worked hard for the golds though we had quite a number of close misses."

Should his schedule allow him, Arroyo would be watching the boxing finals together with Tuason, PSC-POC Task Force chief Richie Garcia and commissioners Weena Lim and Cynthia Carrion.

The team of PSC officials, shuttling from here, Penang and Johore Baru and making sure that the needs of athletes are provided for, will also attend the basketball final before they fly back to Manila with the bulk of the RP contingent on Tuesday.

Tuason said that the presence of the First Gentleman should boost the morale of the national cagers who are expected to face the Malaysians for the gold. They were set to meet the Thais last night.

In a gesture never done by a person of his stature, the First Gentleman hosted a dinner for the delegation before the Games started last Thursday and bared a fresh package of allowances and incentives. He also joined the parade of teams during the opening ceremonies.

He said that the Kaibigan ni GMA Foundation is picking the tab for the $100 additional allowance for each athlete and a separate P2 million in incentives for the medal winners to be determined by Tuason.

Sta. Lucia Tour today at Alta Vista

CEBU—A field of 50 teams aim to give their respective clubs the headstart in the overall race when the Sta. Lucia Tour 2001, the series exclusive for five clubs developed and maintained by the real estate giant, kicks off today at the Alta Vista Golf and Country Club here.

Members of Sta. Lucia-operated clubs led by defending champion Orchard are seeing action in the event. The others are host Alta Vista, Eagle Ridge, Rancho Palos Verdes in Davao and Royale Tagaytay.

"The Sta. Lucia Tour is all about a family competition. We now have clubs from all over the country and that's we are heading for, a nationwide tour," said Vicente Santos, chair of the executive committee.

At stake in the Visayas leg of the series is an Isuzu Fuego put up by Isuzu-Cebu, a Yamaha Golf Cart from Kart Plaza Manufacturing and an Omega watch for players who score aces on designated holes.

Leg winners will receive Black and Decker car vacuum cleaners while raffle prizes include DC3200 Digital Camera with personal picture maker, mc3 portable multimedia device from Kodak digital camera, cellphones from Semicon, Odyssey White Hot putters, Kangaroo Tour cover with wheels, among others.

At the end of the series this December, bigger raffle prizes will be given away topped by a residential property at Eagle Ridge worth P1 million.

The other sponsors of the Tour are Golforce Inc., Gainers Marketing, Atlanta Industries, Kubota Agro-Ind. Machinery Phils., Unirock, Readycon, Club Car, Cebu Plaza Hotel, Omega, Yamaha, Philippine Airlines, Marco Polo Hotel, Isuzu Fuego-Alabang and Neltex and Anako for this year's tour.

Dance champs due

CLEAN LIVING

Manolo R. Iñigo

FILIPINO dance athletes are always a source of fascination because of their endless patience and perseverance. Slowly but surely, they are making enormous strides despite their limited resources and lack of experience. However, in order to become truly competitive in the international scene, they should undergo serious training under tough and competent foreign coaches.

"At present, our talented and potential dance athletes have been training under multititled foreign coaches," said petite Becky Garcia, president of the Dance Sport Council of the Philippines. "We need these foreign coaches badly. It is costly to bring them here, but our local dancers need their presence here to make them globally competitive."

Since 1996, the council was able to make a headway of sort in the international dance scene. "We are barely five years old yet our Latin dancers in particular are now ranked among the best in Asia," stressed Ms Garcia, who also chairs the education and culture commission of the Philippine Olympic Committee.

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Malaysia	0	3	0	0
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Chairman's tourney on; Civic staked

A BRAND-NEW Honda Civic is up for grabs as the P3-million "The Chairman's Cup 2001" unfolds today at the challenging Jack Nicklaus-designed, par-71 golf course of Forest Hills Golf and Country Club in Antipolo City.

"I would like to welcome all the participants in the event. Good luck to all the players," said Forest Hills chair lawyer Ferdinand T. Santos, who along with tournament director Vic de Guzman, promise to surpass the unprecedented success of last year's Chairman's Cup.

TaylorMade Adidas and Golforce Inc. are co-presenting the two-day affair with major sponsors Globe Telecom, Pisanti Golf, The Turf Company and the Fil-Estate Group of Companies.

The Honda Civic is courtesy of Honda Cars Pasig. Other hole-in-one prizes are a TaylorMade Adidas Super Steel complete golf set, a Forest Hills corporate golf share and a Club Car golf cart.

Providing support for the tournament are A.C. Santos Trucking, A.S.T. Security Corp., bank of Commerce, Bramante Dayspring Water, Emeritus Security and Maintenance Systems Inc., Enviro Gardens & Builders Inc., Foodlink Resources and Management Inc., Fortune Tobacco Corp., Hizon Laboratory, Manila Southwoods Manor, Pacsports Philippines Inc., Primal Enterprises Corp., and Primepower Manpower Services.

Santos will lead the hitting of the ceremonial ball with VIP guests Rizal Governor Nini Ynares, Representatives Victor Sumulong and Jack Duavit, Antipolo City Mayor Angelito Gatlabayan, Forest Hills president Noel Cariño, Fil-Estate Corp. chair Robert John Sobrepeña, Golforce Inc. president Roberto Escaño and TaylorMade Adidas sales and marketing manager Ernest Paguia.

NCA bets face Ucap rivals

BITTER rivals National Cockers Association (NCA) and United Cockers Association of the Philippines (Ucap) clash in a neutral ground tonight as the much-awaited 4-stag derby sizzles at Pasay City Cockpit beginning at 7 p.m.

Budding derby promoter Tonette Luzuriaga is hosting the explosive event which offers a cash prize of P300,000. Assisting him are pit managers Oscar Gonzales, Eric dela Rosa and Butchoy Olano.

Bannering the NCA colors are Gov. Ito Ynares, Eddie and Bomboy Araneta, Rudy Jingco, Madlambayan brothers, Boy Jiao, Blandy Tolentino, Gerry Fevidal, Mayor Nic Patenia and Jun Santiago.

Challenging them are Ucap stalwarts Vic Yu, Raymond Velayo, Biboy Enriquez, Mauro Prieto, Sonny Lagon, Richard Bates and the tandem of Ramon Manzenares and Muroy Dolorico, fresh from ruling the BL Showdown 7-Stag Derby.

'Moto' ends Sunday

THE NATIONAL Motocross Super Series 2001 comes to a fitting end this Sunday (Sept.16) with the overall titles in all 16 categories at stake at the Eastborough Place in Angono, Rizal.

Defending champion Glen Aguilar of Caltex-KTM tries to formalize his claim to the overall championship in both the pro open and pro 125 categories against perennial rivals Ernie Leongson and Jovie Saulog of Shell-Yamaha in this prestigious series organized by Hartebeest Entertainment Corp. in cooperation with Kids Foundation.

Saulog, the winningest motocross rider in history with seven titles, and Leongson finished 1-2 in the pro open category in the previous leg last Sept.2 and denied Aguilar an outright claim to the overall title in the event also supported by WG&A, PLDT, Smart, Bench, Agua Vida, Norkis-Yamaha, Access Plus, Transtainer System, Dreambikes and Seagull Glassworks.

RACING TIPS

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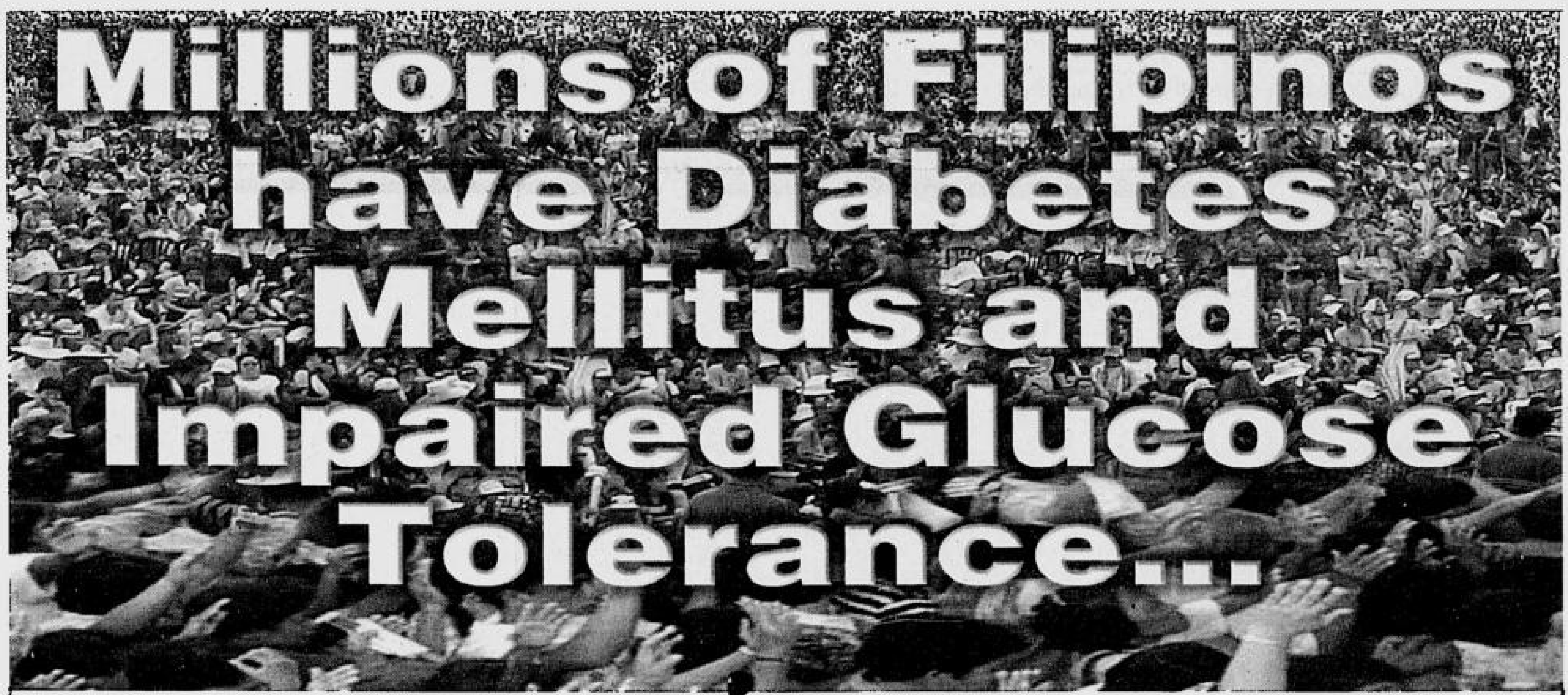
Race 1—1. Rosa Valentina 2. Spinning Bullet 3. Real Material 4. Piker's Palace
Race 2—1. Party Princess 2. Precious Time 3. Air Love 4. Flying Joey
Race 3—1. Sabik 2. Wire to Wire 3. Fantasia 4. Lucky Fil 5. Memory Lane
Race 4—1. Dragon Heart 2. North Shine 3. Mr. Bullseye 4. Adrenalin
Race 5—1. Gifted Angel 2. Howard Huge 3. Something Silver 4. Padron Real 5. Lady Queen 6. Grace and Fortune
Race 6—1. Allusion 2. Forthefirsttime 3. Agimat 4. Tower of Power
Race 7—1. D Pen Traveller 2. Mama Mia 3. Southern Gent 4. Pretty Pleasing 5. Like A Prince
Race 8—1. Turbo Carera 2. Steel Wheel/Deputy Parade 3. Waving Task 4. Cristel Jay 5. Fair Warning
Race 9—1. Suterian Era 2. Clear Sky 3. Cubano 4. Bull Strike 5. Premiere Act 6. Ikaw Pag Asa Ko

SPORTS ON TV

COMPILED BY LORENZO MANGUIAT

GOLF: PGA Bell Canadian Open Highlights at 8 a.m. (r) on Star Sports
Inside the PGA Tour at 11:30 a.m. (r – 8 p.m.) on Star Sports
BASKETBALL: NBA Inside Stuff at 8:30 p.m. on Star Sports
BOXING. Friday Night Fights at 10 p.m. on ESPN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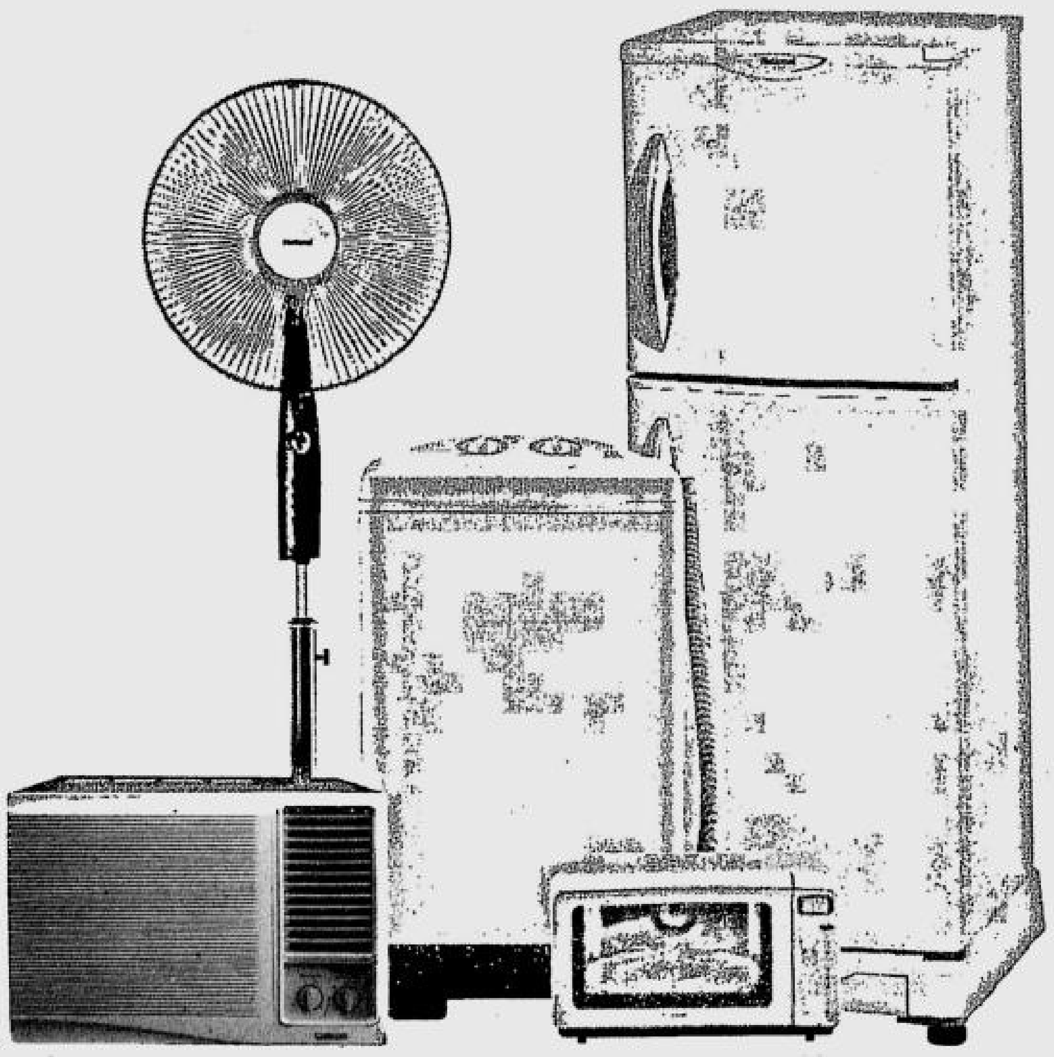

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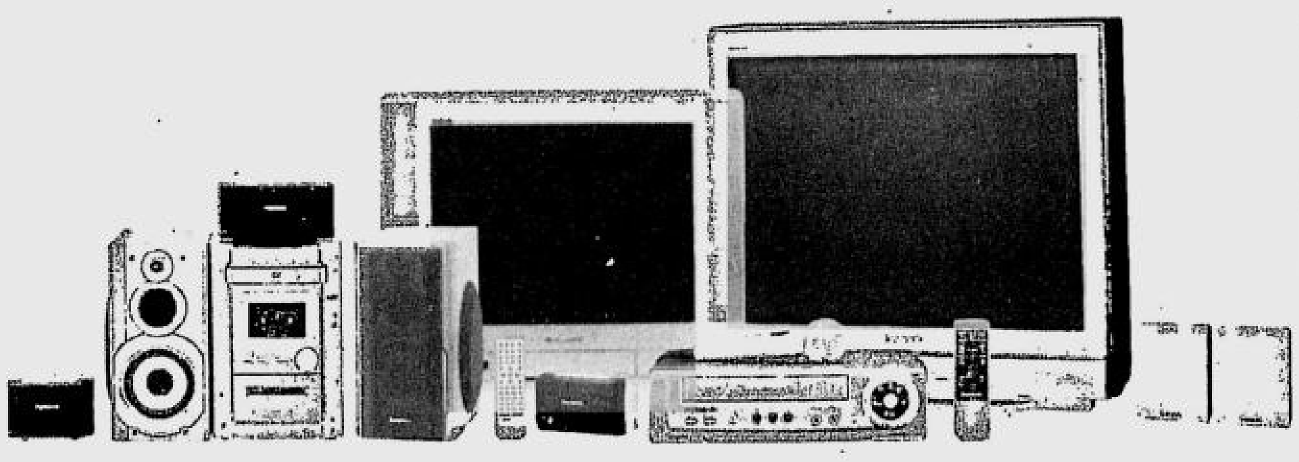

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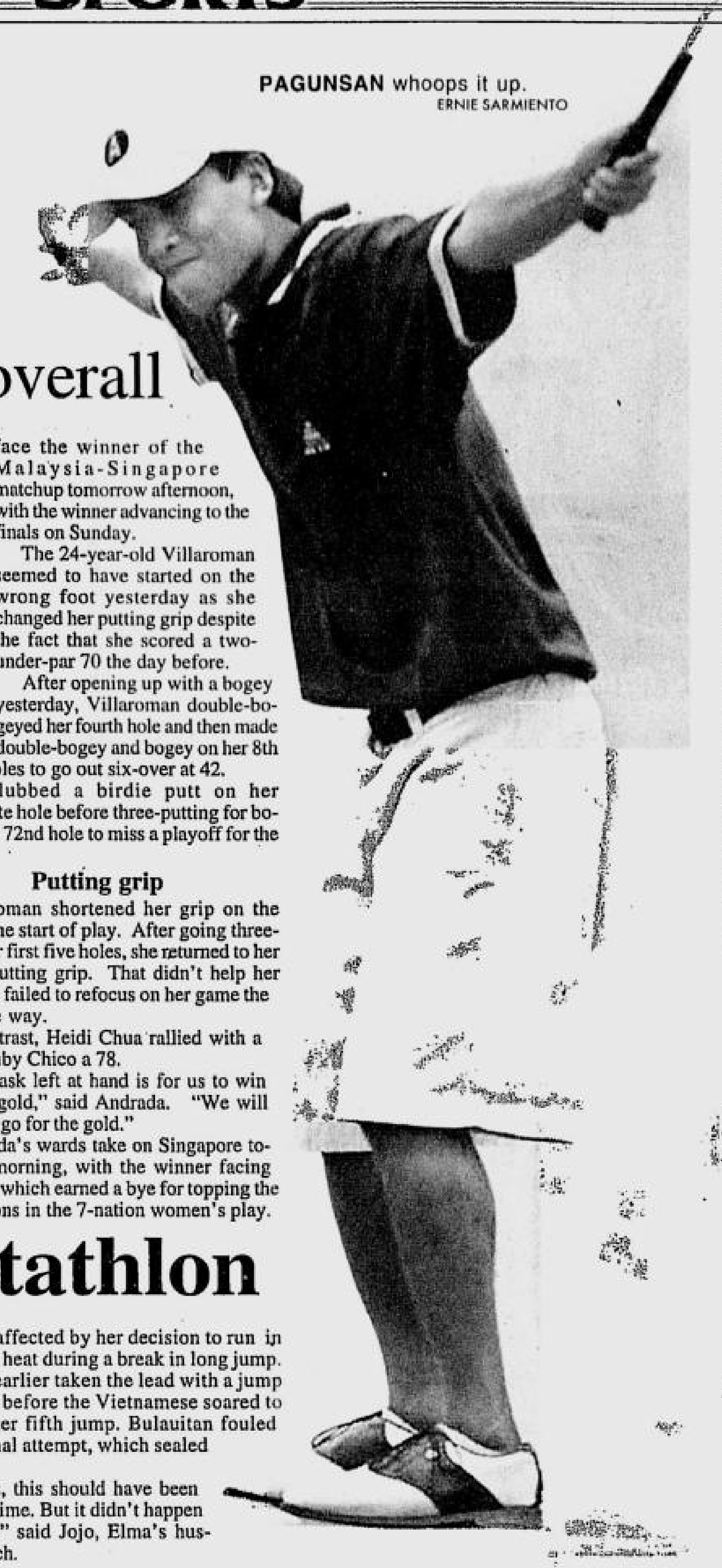
Pagunsan wins men's golf gold

Villaroman falters, ends up 5th overall



PAGUNSAN whoops it up.
ERNIE SARMIENTO

KUALA LUMPUR—Toothpick-thin Juvic Pagunsan won the gold medal yesterday by an impressive nine strokes as the Philippines retained the men's crown in the 21st Southeast Asian Games golf event here.

But Carmelette Villaroman, the overnight leader by one shot in women's play, ballooned to a seven-over-par 79 at Sungai Long and finished out of the medal race as she placed fifth overall.

So, while Pagunsan made high-fives all over after coasting to a 71 for a stunning nine-under-par 279 total, Villaroman locked herself inside the dressing room grieving over her misfortunes that struck her almost day-long.

"I just let her be," said women's team captain Alice Andrada. "Golf is a humbling experience and I can understand her."

Pagunsan's victory was the fifth golf gold in eight SEA Games for the country and RP's third straight since the 1997 Jakarta edition.

Wire-to-wire finish

But more importantly, it made Pagunsan only the second Filipino to finish wire-to-wire after Rodolfo "Baka" Cuello in the 1993 Singapore Games.

Upon learning of Pagunsan's victory, Rod Feliciano, president of the National Golf Association of the Philippines, called up from the Philippines to congratulate Pagunsan.

"Pagunsan's victory is proof once more of the correctness of our strategy," said Feliciano. "By sending our teams early to Kuala Lumpur (Aug. 27), we are reaping the rewards for our country. Again, I thank the Philippine Sports Commission for helping us send our teams early to the Games."

In winning the gold, Pagunsan showed nerves of steel and a big fighting heart from Day 1 to Day 4.

The victory for the Bacolod-born Pagunsan, the eldest of three children by touring pro Juanito, was his third for the year, adding the DHL Open and Canlubang Amateurs.

Tournament record

Prior to his 71 yesterday, the 23-year-old, 5-foot-3 Pagunsan, not weighing more than 120 pounds, shot 67-74-67. His 71 included a lone bogey on No. 3 on a missed green. His birdies on Nos. 5 and 17 gave him a total of 17 birdies for the tournament—a tournament record.

"I putted so well in this tournament I never had a single three-putt," said Pagunsan, who added he was dedicating his victory "to my sweetheart Len-Len, my parents and my countrymen."

But Pagunsan's teammates Jay Bayron, Marvin Dumandan and Boyet Saragoza could not be denied, too.

With Bayron shooting a 68 and Dumandan a 72, the Philippines climbed to third overall, allowing the boys to have a lighweight opponent in Brunei in Round 1 of match play for the team gold beginning tomorrow, avoiding an early confrontation with top favorite Thailand.

Should the Filipinos prevail, they will face the winner of the Malaysia-Singapore matchup tomorrow afternoon, with the winner advancing to the finals on Sunday.

The 24-year-old Villaroman seemed to have started on the wrong foot yesterday as she changed her putting grip despite the fact that she scored a two-under-par 70 the day before.

After opening up with a bogey yesterday, Villaroman double-bogeyed her fourth hole and then made double-bogey and bogey on her 8th and 9th holes to go out six-over at 42.

She flubbed a birdie putt on her penultimate hole before three-putting for bogey on the 72nd hole to miss a playoff for the bronze.

Putting grip

Villaroman shortened her grip on the putter at the start of play. After going three-over in her first five holes, she returned to her original putting grip. That didn't help her any as she failed to refocus on her game the rest of the way.

In contrast, Heidi Chua rallied with a 74 and Ruby Chico a 78.

"The task left at hand is for us to win the team gold," said Andrada. "We will definitely go for the gold."

Andrada's wards take on Singapore tomorrow morning, with the winner facing Thailand, which earned a bye for topping the eliminations in the 7-nation women's play.

SEA GAMES SKED

SEPTEMBER 14

DIVING: 9 a.m.—Women's 3m springboard (Perez); men's 10m platform (Fabriga, Asok), prelim/final

ARCHERY: 8 a.m.—Men's Olympic Round shootoff

ATHLETICS: 9 a.m.—Heptathlon: 100m hurdles, high jump, shotput, 200m run (Molina, Posadas); men's hammer throw, final (Ferrera, Perater); women's discus throw, final (Hamero); men's high jump, final (Guevara); women's 400 hurdles, round 1 (Posadas); men's 400 hurdles, round 1 (Manata); women's triple jump, final (Molina); men's 1500m, final (Lozada); men's 4 x400-m relay, rd 1 (Candelario, Jimar, Tanuan Jr, Marfil/Manata).

BADMINTON: 2:40 P.M.—Ladies singles, semi (Asuncion); men's singles semi (Asuncion) Note: Athletes' schedule depends on their showing in earlier rounds

SNOOKERS & BILLIARDS: 1 p.m.—Billiards team, semifinals; snooker team, semifinals Note: Schedule depends on teams' showing in earlier rounds

TENPIN BOWLING: 9 a.m.—Masters, men (1st 8-game block); Masters, women (1st 8-game block) Note: Qualifiers to be determined by all-event scores

BOXING: 3 p.m.—Semis Note; RP participation depends on results of earlier rounds

CYCLING (Mountain Bike): 10 a.m.—Men's downhill, final (Oncada, Borja) Note: Athlete's schedule depends on results of seeding run

EQUESTRIAN: 8 a.m.—Showjumping, individual final (Barba, Cojuangco, Santos, Zobel)

GYMNASTICS: 3 p.m.—Rythmic: rope, hoop, ball, clubs (Basco)

JUDO: 4 p.m.—Middleweight; half-middleweight (men and women)

LAWN BOWLS: 8:30 a.m.—RP (Dagpin-Bugo) vs. Malaysia, men's pairs: RP (Knight) vs Brunei, women's singles; RP (Witheridge, Kucharsyki, Bruce, Benthall) vs Thailand

PENCAK SILAT: 9 a.m.—Tanding (fighting), semi-finals, 2 p.m.—Tanding (fighting), semifinals

SEPAK TAKRAW: 10 a.m.—Myanmar vs RP (Magtangob, Ruedas Jr., Saavedra, Aleta), men's regu

SQUASH: 10 a.m.—Pool matches, 1 p.m.—Semifinals (if successful in earlier rounds)

SHOOTING: 8 a.m.—Double trap men, 150 targets, final

SAILING: 11 a.m.—Int'l 430 (Tayong, Francisco) Int'l 470 (Balladares, Chavez), Mistral 1 Lightweight (Paz), Mistral Heavyweight (Juarez)

TENNIS: 9 a.m.—Semifinal for men and ladies Note: Athletes' schedule depends on results of earlier round

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www.inquirer.net/jobmarket

Elma sets sights on heptathlon

By Dennis U. Eroa

KUALA LUMPUR—A day after losing her title as long jump queen, Elma Muros-Posadas looked merry and confident as she prepares to compete in heptathlon, the event which gave her the gold during the 1997 Jakarta SEA Games and the silver two years ago in Brunei.

"I have a good sleep last night," Muros-Posadas yesterday told the INQUIRER as she relaxes with husband Jojo at the Crown Prince Hotel in City Square here. "Life goes on."

Elma's attempt to end her SEA Games career in a blaze of glory ended in frustration Wednesday when she finished fourth in a field of seven in long jump – her specialty event for more than a decade.

What made matters worse for the Philippines was the fact that Lerma Bulauitan lost the gold to Vietnamese Phan Thi Thu Lan, who registered 6.46m.

Bulauitan's bid to snare her first SEAG gold got affected by her decision to run in the 100m heat during a break in long jump. She had earlier taken the lead with a jump of 6.34m before the Vietnamese soared to 6:46 in her fifth jump. Bulauitan fouled up her final attempt, which sealed her fate.

"Yes, this should have been Lerma's time. But it didn't happen that way," said Jojo, Elma's husband-coach.

MEMBERS of the RP karate team show the medals they won in the Kuala Lumpur SEA Games upon arrival yesterday.
ROGER MARGALLO

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KUALA LUMPUR 2001
MEDAL TALLY

As of 9 p.m.

Countries	Gold	Silver	Bronze	Total
Malaysia	63	46	53	162
Thailand	51	44	51	146
Indonesia	42	36	45	123
Philippines	21	41	40	102
Vietnam	21	24	35	80
Myanmar	12	11	30	53
Singapore	12	17	26	55
Brunei	0	0	4	4
Laos	0	1	3	4
Cambodia	0	0	3	3

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PBA today at Philsports

GAMES TODAY (Philsports)
5:05p.m.—Shell vs Alaska
7:10p.m.—Swift vs Tanduay

FOUR squads try to break into the win column when they cross paths today in the PBA Governors Cup at the Philsports Arena.

Opening-game losers Shell and Alaska take the floor in the curtain-raiser while Swift and Tanduay, which were also unfortunate during their respective debut, tangle later in the evening.

Spearheaded by a versatile import in Askia Jones, the Zoommasters seemed headed for a clear victory only to squander a 21-point lead and yield against Talk N Text, 92-90, last week.

At that, the Zoommasters' local crew is expected to elevate its brand of play a notch higher if only to keep up with the Aces, who continue to rely on old hand Sean Chambers for reinforcement.

Chambers failed to coax the rest of the Aces at winning, however, as they faltered against Purefoods, 97-89, in Antipolo City last Saturday.

The Rhummasters suffered the same fate against Barangay Ginebra after the Kings exploited Eric Menk's absence in the final period. *June Navarro*

UAAP results:

UE 80, NU 77; UP 91, Ateneo 84

Trinidad-Hopkins off

NEW YORK —The undisputed middleweight championship fight between Felix Trinidad and Bernard Hopkins set for Saturday at Madison Square Garden was postponed in the wake of terrorist attacks. No new date was set.

"It's been postponed," promoter Don King said Wednesday by phone from his home at Windsor, Ohio. "I was really devastated by the sneak attack." *AP*

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SPORTS

Al S. Mendoza, Editor ■ Edwin M. Villanueva, Assistant Editor

KUALA LUMPUR 2001

HALFWAY MARK

RP snares 7 golds, grabs 4th place

CANDELARIO AP

By Dennis U. Eroa

KUALA LUMPUR—Highly determined Filipino athletes recorded their biggest haul thus far by winning seven golds, two in bowling and two in athletics, as they stepped up their attack in the 21st Southeast Asian Games which breached the halfway mark yesterday.

With its fiery shows, the Philippines finally overtook Vietnam in the overall standings with a 22 golds 41 silvers 41 bronzes. Vietnam dropped to fifth spot with a 21-24-36 output.

The golden hands of golfer Juvic Pagunsan, archer Purita Joy Marino and bowler Leonardo Rey Jr., plus the team of five emerged as shining achievements of the hard-pressed Philippine contingent yesterday.

And old reliables Ernie Candelario and Fidel Gallenero, bronze medalists in Brunei, ruled the men's 400-meter final and decathlon, respectively.Candelario clocked 47.59, while Gallenero became the Games' iron man by topping decathlon with 6,958 points, way ahead of silver medalist Boonyaket Chaloon of Thailand (6,332) and teammate Roberto Fresnido (4,947). Antonio Lining subdued Lee Van Corteza, Efren "Bata" Reyes' conqueror in the 8-ball singles finals, by topping the nine-ball singles.

Pagunsan carded a final day 71 to win the golf individual title with plenty to spare as he made up for Carmellete Villaroman's faltering finish in the ladies event at the Sungai Long Golf and Country Club here.

Over at the Bandaraya Square in Johor Baru, Marino joyfully topped the women's individual final by shocking local bet Lim Geok Pong. Filipino bowlers continued to crack Malaysia's domination as Chester King, Christian Jan Suarez, Engelbert Rivera, Benito Dytoc Jr. and Leonardo Rey Jr won the gold with 6,327 pinfalls. Malaysia came second with 6,058, followed by Thailand with 6,035.

Rey emerged best in the men's all events with 5,354, beating Malaysian Ben Heng with 5,181. Bowling now have four golds, the same output of the wushu team, which was already savoring the sweet smell of success in Manila. That 71 gave Pagunsan a 271 total, nine shots ahead of Malaysia's Airil Rizman.

Villaroman, who led by one going into the final round, slumped to a 79 for 224 total, allowing Thailander Onnarin Sattayabanphot, who shot a tournament's best 69 to claim the gold with 217. Villaroman finished fifth.Malaysia, getting the golds from swimming, athletics, gymnastics, karate, equestrian, shooting and cycling, is the runaway overall leader with a 63-45-51 tally, followed by Brunei SEAG overall champion Thailand (49-43-50) and Indonesia (41-35-45).

The Philippines had already bettered its 20-26-41 tally in Brunei, though the Philippines competed in just 21 sports, eight less than here. Geralyn Amandoron placed second in women's javelin, while Cecilia Yap settled for the silver behind Shalin Zulfikli (5,255, new record) with 4,946 in women's all event.

In boxing, Arlan Lerio whipped Aung Tun Lim of Myanmar, 22-12, to arrange a gold medal duel in the bantamweight class against Thailand's Chotipat Wongprates.

In rowing, Sydney Olympian Benjie Tolentino got only the silver on his 28th birthday after bowing to Indonesia's 6-foot-9 champion Lazmin Lazmin in the 2,000m race.

Pinoy 5 spank Thais

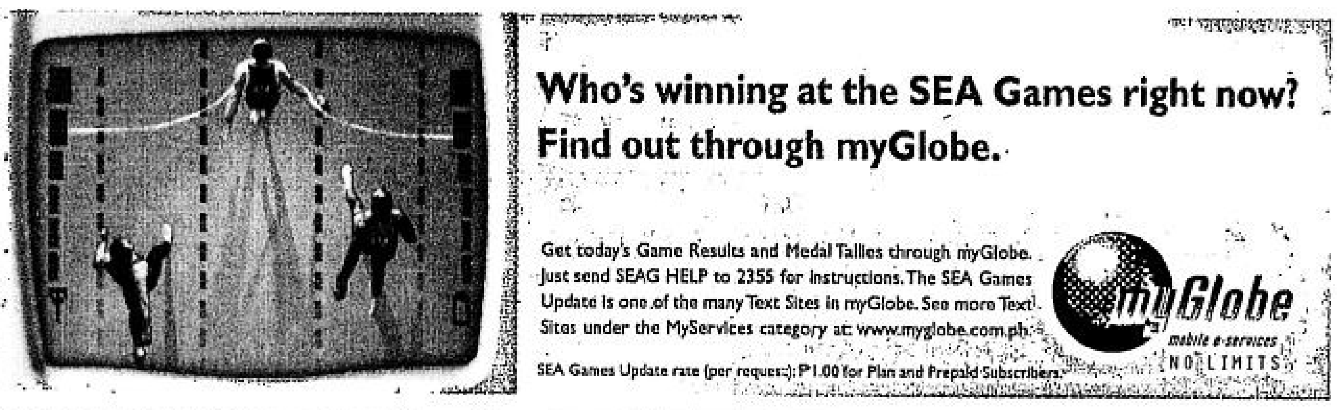
KUALA LUMPUR—The Philippines lived up to its fearsome reputation with an overpowering 94-65 victory over Thailand last night as it moved within two wins of retaining the SEAG men's basketball crown before a jampacked crowd at the Malaysian Basketball Asssociation Gym here.

Thailand is touted as the biggest threat to the Philippines' title bid but the lopsided win clearly showed that the Filipinos are a cut above the rest in this biennial meet.

The Philippines takes a rest day today before meeting lowly Singapore on Saturday and capping its campaign against host Malaysia for the gold medal on Sunday.

Earlier, defending women's champion Malaysia edged the Philippines, 74-70.

Dennis U. Eroa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Rape, murder under MRT central station A26

METRO

LOUIE C. CAMINO, Editor

2 Koreans injured in rob attempts A27

4 foreign terrorists could still be in RP, police say

Muslim community fears 'sweeping perception'

By Jerome Aning

AS MANY as four foreign terrorists with links to the man convicted of bombing the World Trade Center in 1993 could still be in the Philippines, according to a former chief of the Western Police District.

Chief Supt. Avelino Razon Jr., who used to head the WPD, also said the attacks on the United States last Tuesday bore similarities to "Operation Bojinka," which involved bombings and the use of airplanes in terroristic acts.

Razon, the current Central Visayas police commander, made the revelation as Manila Mayor Lito Atienza ordered Razon's successor, Chief Supt. Nicolas Pasinos Jr., to maximize the WPD's intelligence efforts to check for the possible presence of foreign terrorist cells in the city.

4 FOREIGN/A26

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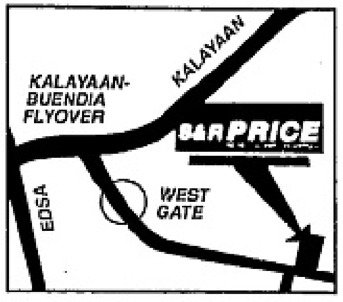

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Rape, murder under MRT central station

By Philip C. Tubeza

THE NAKED body of a woman who was raped and stabbed dead was found under the Metro Rail Transit (MRT) central station in Barangay Pag-Asa in Quezon City at dawn yesterday.

The woman's body was found at 5:45 a.m. yesterday by Metro Aide Monina Arcayon-Bayonon, 59.

"Bayonon was shocked," said investigator SPO1 Edwin de la Cruz of the Central Police District-Criminal Investigation Unit. "The victim was stark naked and lying in a pool of blood under the MRT station."

The MRT station is at the corner of Edsa and North Avenue in San Roque in Barangay Pag-Asa, Quezon City.

Police have yet to identify the woman who was described to be fair, between 20 and 30 years old, about 4 feet and 8 inches tall and shorthaired.

The woman had two wounds in the face and forehead, and a stab wound in the chest, police said.

Witnesses told police they saw a woman being raped by two men on the traffic island in the middle of Edsa before the woman's body was found.

Police said they are trying to get a description of the rapists from the witnesses.

Members of the CPD Scene of the Crime Operation (Soco) team have scoured the crime scene for evidence, police said.

The woman's body was brought to the Philippine National Police Crime Laboratory for an autopsy.

The vinegar boy who made Bata Reyes look great

Bare Eye

Recah Trinidad

EFREN "Bata" Reyes will not like this, but some two years ago, a frail boy threw away a money match to help the national billiards icon save face before affluent patrons.

That boy was Lee Vann Corteza. On Tuesday, Corteza, although still in awe, gave his best and made some incredible shots to beat Bata Reyes in an honest-to-goodness duel and bagged the eight-ball singles gold medal in the 21st Southeast Asian Games.

There's a problem. Many Filipino fans here refused to believe Bata Reyes really played his best. They swore Corteza was not capable of truly upstaging Bata Reyes.

The majority swore Reyes instead took a dive to give Corteza the gold. Reyes has, of course, made a screaming denial. He claimed he lost clear and clean after he miscalculated and had the cue ball hopelessly locked with the eight ball in the last and deciding match.

Reyes also glared at his conqueror after Corteza insisted that he had to play a nervous game throughout the close and exciting eight-ball final.

Said Reyes: "*Kalokohang ninerbiyos 'yan. Kitang-kita naman ninyo ang laban* (It's silly for him to claim he played scared. You all saw how he performed.)"

* * *

Corteza, son of a retired geodetic engineer from Davao, displayed symphonic, flawless pool in his *mano-a-mano* against Efren the Magician at the cavernous Gym 1 of the Bukit Jalil National Stadium Tuesday evening. He edged the world-famous RP cue master 5-4 to cause the biggest uproar so far in the pool series among Asean players here.

Until yesterday, however, the routine response among Filipino workers here was both awe and disbelief.

These people obviously did not think David and Goliath could be remade at the felt table. These same people, of course, did not know that Corteza, just like Reyes, had won two gold medals for the Philippines in the SEA Games in Brunei.

Corteza, 23, yesterday was to go for his second gold in the nine-ball singles where he was entered together with the highly rated Antonio "Nikoy" Lining.

Just like in the set-up against Bata Reyes on Tuesday, Corteza was expected to play second fiddle to Lining, a tested internationalist who advanced ahead of Reyes in the last World Pool Championship in Cardiff.

* * *

Last Tuesday, Reyes and Corteza took their semifinal assignments starting at 4 p.m. Reyes toyed with his Singaporean foe, while Corteza had a shaky start, went down 0-2, before finally bundling off his Malaysian opponent.

Before the Pinoy-*kontra*-Pinoy championship, Reyes had a full dinner.

Corteza, however, refused to take a bite. He did not touch anything on the dinner table.

He bared that he could play doubly better on an empty stomach. Food, he continued, renders him sort of dull, sluggish around the competition table.

Naturally, the frail and shy Corteza fussed and fidgeted a lot around the table. He appeared both pale and cold. This even led several keen-eyed Pinoy spectators at Gym 1 to quip that Corteza looked like an errand boy sent by his mother to fetch vinegar at the corner store. *Pinabili 'lang ng suka.*

* * *

These fans could not be blamed. They had neither heard nor read about Corteza in major billiard bulletins back home. To their surprise, the Vinegar Boy was wholesomely smooth, sharp and sweet in his final duel with Bata Reyes, his boyhood idol.

Corteza, in truth, had wanted to offer Reyes a compromise that whoever loses would get an automatic P30,000 share of the P100,000 gold-medal incentive.

Told that a silver medal would also be worth P50,000 when they return home, Corteza readily skipped the idea.

Anyway, the reason Corteza had thought of the unusual deal was the result of an exhibition match where he, after taking a 5-1 lead in the race to seven against Reyes, was asked to take a dive for P30,000.

Corteza refused to name the exact location. But he identified the man who stepped on his toe and ordered him to let Reyes win as a balding, pot-bellied gambling lord. Narrated Corteza: "*Medyo nakainom si* Champ, *pulang-pula na, at lamang na ako* 5-1. *Tinawag ni* Boss, *sabi mapapahiya tayo sa mga bisita, lahat diyan ang* idol *si* Bata."

Corteza alleged that the gambling lord had promised him P30,000 if he allowed Bata Reyes to win the match. Bata did by a score of 7-5. Of course, Reyes was not aware of what had taken place. But Corteza claimed he next headed home without his promised "reward" for having helped Reyes look good before the guests.

Now, if you also think Lee Van Corteza, 23, was talking through his hat, all you have to do is replay his gold-medal match with Bata Reyes. The boy was a swoon. So here's hoping Corteza's golden feat would finally open the eyes of rich sponsors who should export this pool genius the way they have bankrolled and paraded Bata Reyes and his gang before the pool world.

Businessman arrested for sis-in-law's rape

By Christian V. Esguerra

A BUSINESSMAN was accused of raping his 19-year-old sister-in-law last Sunday in his house in Caloocan City.

Police on Wednesday arrested the 37-year-old suspect, a buy-and-sell businessman and an interpreter, for allegedly raping the youngest sister of his wife about 9 p.m. Sunday, said Insp. Virginia Tejuco, chief of the Children's and Women's Concern Desk.

The businessman denied the accusation and claimed that his in-laws had fabricated the rape charge because of a family feud.

But in her complaint-affidavit, the sister-in-law said that last Sunday, the man sneaked into her room while she was sleeping and raped her. She said he threatened to hurt her if she resisted.

She said that her brother-in-law often accused her of stealing his money and taking food from the refrigerator.

Police investigation showed that the man and his wife had brought the young woman from Davao late last month to stay in their house in Caloocan. Several days later, the wife returned to Davao for several days to attend to her family's business, police said.

Caloocan police arrested the businessman at 8:45 p.m. on Wednesday in a neighbor's house. He is now facing rape charges before the city prosecutor's office.

Makati curfew still on

MAKATI Mayor Jejomar C. Binay yesterday instructed all barangay chairs to actively enforce all ordinances, particularly on the curfew for minors from 10 p.m. to 5 a.m.

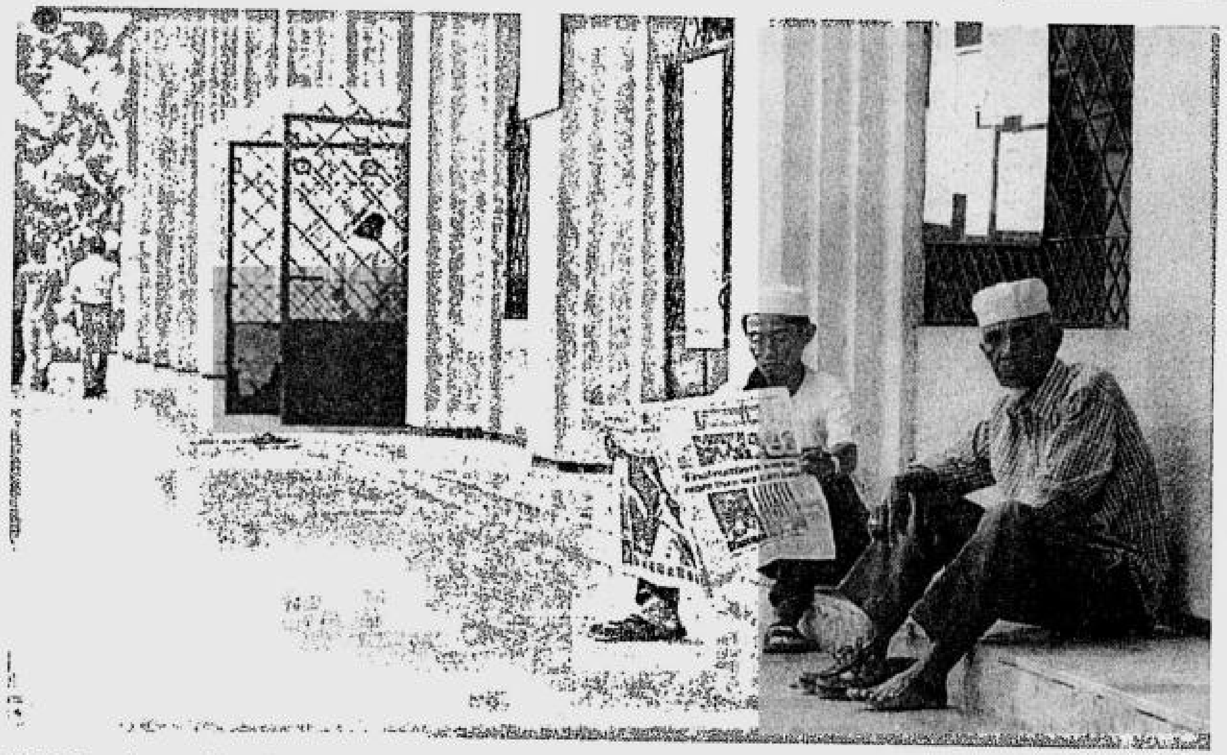
Noting that some of those who are supposed to implement the curfew seem remiss in their duties, Binay, in a recent meeting of the Makati Peace and Order Council, said barangay officials and police should strictly enforce the curfew, among other ordinances, to protect the youth from indulging in illicit activities like using illegal drugs.

The Peace and Order Council, with Binay as chair, is composed of various city hall departments, the Makati police department, the Department of Interior and Local Government, and the Liga ng mga Barangay.

Binay said barangay officials should also immediately see to the implementation of the ban on selling alcoholic beverages and cigarettes to minors, illegal installation of structures on sidewalks, stray dogs, and other ordinances involving public sensibilities.

"Please be reminded that all the city ordinances were intensively analyzed, deliberated upon, and passed to ensure public safety and convenience," Binay said, adding that "we are duty-bound to continue to uphold them."

"I expect the concerned authorities to implement the curfew in their areas so we can prevent untoward incidents involving teenagers during unholy hours," Binay said.



WE'RE not capable of mass murder, members of the local Muslim community say, including those who pray at the Mosque in Quiapo, Manila.

ERIK ARAZAS

4 foreign terrorists . . .

(From page A25)

Razon said the foreign terrorists could have connections to Ramzi Ahman Yousef, who was convicted for the 1993 WTC bombing. One of Yousef's colleagues, Abdulhakim Alihashim Murad, admitted he was a pilot being trained for a suicide mission, Razon noted.

In a news conference in Manila yesterday, Razon said Bojinka was tested at least five times, twice during the Miss Universe pageant in Manila on May 21, 1994. A fast-food store was bombed on Nov. 13, 1994 in Nagtahan, Manila, followed by the Greenbelt theater in Makati City on Dec. 1 and a Japan-bound Philippine Airlines plane on Dec. 11.

Yousef and two colleagues were later arrested in different countries after they left the Philippines in 1995, when their attempt to assassinate Pope John Paul II was thwarted by the WPD and the Presidential Security Group's Special Action Unit, then headed by Razon.

Razon said the most important accomplishment in the foiling of Bojinka and of the papal assassination was the realization of the authorities that "a terrorist cell which has links to Osama Bin Laden exists in the Philippines."

Razon said he believes the remaining members of the terrorist cell "will concentrate on their objectives."

Razon is set to fly to the United States today to attend a two-week, anti-terrorist assistance program seminar in Washington, DC. He will return on Oct. 6.

Although it was also possible that the four foreign terrorists had already left the country, Mayor Atienza said the WPD should not take chances.

Atienza directed Pasinos to coordinate with Razon and other law enforcement units to get additional information on the remaining members of Yousef's cell group.

"We have seen what these terror groups are capable of," Atienza said. "Apparently, they were even able to avoid detection by American intelligence agencies (so) we have to undertake all the necessary measures to prevent a terrorist attack from taking place in Manila."

Manila police are expected to scour the Arab and Filipino Muslim communities in the city for possible information about suspected terrorists.

Leaders of Manila's Muslim community yesterday expressed fears of the sweeping perception that they and their constituents are "enemies," as United States investigators suspect Islamic extremists as the brains behind the deadly attacks on New York and Washington, DC.

"There are many kinds of Muslims, but we are not the kind who are capable of mass murder," Alim Abdulmagid Goling, administrator of the Islamic Center in San Miguel, Quiapo, said.

Goling said like other Muslims, he was filled with horror and revulsion by the bombings. He said he and his fellow Muslims do not condone the killing of thousands of civilians just to achieve a cause.

"Muslims have nothing against the US," Ambiong told the INQUIRER in a phone interview. "It's just that we do not like it when we see the US intervention in the Middle East, such as when it takes the side of the Israelis against Palestinians," Datu Amerol Gulam-Ambiong, chair of the Metro Manila Muslims Peace and Order Council, told the INQUIRER in a phone interview.

Ambiong blamed the bombings on the United States' "policy of meddling in many nations, which has created many enemies."

But he said he also does not approve of the bombings that killed thousands of innocent civilians.

"While he sympathizes with the US victims, we also sympathize with our fellow Muslims in the other parts of the world who continue to be oppressed-such as the Palestinians, Iraqis, Afghans and Sudanese—but that is all we can do," Goling said.

Goling, who also heads the Philippine Islamic Cultural Fund Foundation, said Muslims should be calm and rational and "show everyone that we are peace-loving."

Ambiong cautioned the US investigators not to be too hasty in pointing to Muslims as the ones responsible for the bombings. But he said those found to have been responsible for the carnage should be punished.

Last week, Goling and Ambiong led about 1,000 Islamic Center residents in picketing the WPD headquarters to press for the punishment of five policemen who fired at civilians while apprehending a suspected drug pusher. The suspect and one civilian were killed.

METRO Manila Development Authority (MMDA) Chair Benjamin Abalos (standing extreme right) and Federation of Residents' Associations Inc. (Fora) president Reynaldo Almario (standing second from right) have agreed to implement the no-segregation, no-collection policy in all Fora member villages in Metro Manila to help boost MMDA's waste reduction program. Other Fora officers who agreed to implement the policy were (seated from left) Hilda Salita, Mariana Neighborhood Association; Teresa Bon Muhlfeld, Magallanes Village Association; Fannie Castillo, Greenhills East Association; (standing, from left) Jack Roses, Ecology Village; Gonzalo Misa, Blue Ridge Residents' Association; Pablo Panlilio Jr., Palm Village Association; and Joseph Bactol, Alexandra Condominium Association.

Reclaimed land eyed as dump

By Nelson F. Flores

THE METROPOLITAN Manila Development Authority is studying proposals to reclaim a shallow portion of Manila Bay and turn it into a permanent dumpsite for Metro Manila.

MMDA Chair Benjamin Abalos Sr. said the study has been going on for sometime. He said reclaiming portions of Manila Bay is an attractive alternative in the face of fierce public opposition to the setting up of landfills.

"At least 250 hectares would be reclaimed from the sea if the project pushes through," Abalos said.

The MMDA chief said a Japanese firm, Mitsubishi Heavy Industries, earlier proposed to reclaim portions of the sea for the MMDA, but their fee is quite expensive. He said another firm also proposed to reclaim portions of Manila Bay for a lower price.

But Abalos stressed no decision has been made, adding the two proposals were sent to the Department of Environment and Natural Resources for further study.

Proposals to reclaim portions of Manila Bay are not new.

Earlier, the Asian Development Bank said it was willing to fund a recommendation of the Japan International Cooperation Agency to reclaim portions of Manila Bay and make it an offshore dump site.

But the offer was rejected because of the project's prohibitive cost.

In Rizal province, Abalos appealed to Rodriguez residents to reconsider their opposition to the setting up of a landfill in their town.

A number of Rodriguez residents vowed to oppose the setting up of a landfill in their neighborhood, a move that has the approval of their mayor, Pedro Cuerpo.

Abalos said the Rodriguez sanitary landfill is safe and won't affect the environment. He said the landfill would be constructed according to international standards on sanitation and environment.

Mayor Cuerpo said Rodriguez needed the landfill to prosper. He added that among the conditions he sought in exchange for the landfill's operation is the total closure of the Payatas open dumpsite and the construction of a highway that would increase commerce in his depressed municipality.

"I sincerely believe that the landfill would bring prosperity to my constituents," Cuerpo said.

Aside from meeting the conditions, Abalos said the MMDA would invest P50 million in Rodriguez for the construction of a recycling and composting plant that would employ local residents.

In Pasay, residents have accused the city government of failing to implement garbage segregation as provided for in Republic Act No. 9003 (the Solid Waste Management Act of 2000).

Residents also expressed dismay over the alleged failure of Mayor Wenceslao Trinidad to solve the city's garbage problem.

Nene Pelayo, a vendor and resident of F. B. Harrison Street, said they used to comply with the segregation scheme but decided to stop because the city government appeared to be indifferent. She said garbage collectors did not bother to sort the waste they collect.

"We don't have to segregate our waste, it is just a waste of our time," Pelayo said.

And instead of doing something about the problem, city hall officials blamed the MMDA for the waste problem, said Julie Belen, 55, a mother of two.

Belen said garbage is piling up all over the city, making Pasay the garbage capital of Metro Manila.

THE DAILY GOSPEL

Friday, September 14, 2001
Triumph of the Cross

1st Reading: **Num 21:4-9**
2nd Reading: **Phil 2:6-11**
Gospel: **Jn 3:13-17**

Jesus said to Nicodemus, "No one has ever gone up to heaven except the one who came from heaven, the Son of Man.

As Moses lifted up the serpent in the desert, so must the Son of Man be lifted up, so that whoever believes in him may have eternal life.

Yes, God so loved the world that he gave his only Son that whoever believes in him may not be lost, but may have eternal life. God did not send the Son into the world to condemn the world; instead, through him the world is to be saved."

Commentary

For Paul, the cross is the sublime sign of humility. The divine Jesus did not just take up flesh to live like us, to serve as a slave but he also submitted himself to die in a most humiliating way, not even worthy of criminals, to die naked on the cross, in obedience to the Father. For Paul, this is the reason why Jesus now is exalted in the highest heavens. For John, the lifting up of Jesus on the cross is also his lifting up in glory. Jesus' triumph coincides with his defeat. We share in his victory, life eternal, if we believe in him and follow his example of utter humility. The mystery of incarnation lifts humanity up.

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SUPREME COURT DOCTRINES

REMEDIAL LAW (CRIMINAL PROCEDURE/EVIDENCE)—It is settled that the trial court's assessment of the credibility of witnesses is generally accorded great respect because it had the opportunity to hear them and to observe their demeanor and manner of testifying. The exception is when it overlooked or misapplied some facts, which could have affected the result of the case. Indeed, the proximate contact of the trial court with those who take the witness stand places it in a more competent position to discriminate between a true and false testimony. With respect to declarations, acts and omissions of accused-appellant after the crime, these may be received in evidence against him as provided by Rule 130, Section 26 of the Revised Rules on Evidence. [Citations omitted.] [Justice Mendoza, Second Division, People v. Olivo, Jr., G.R. No. 130335, January 18, 2001]

Digest by R.B. Vera

Traffic man shoots at dad, beats up wife

By Agnes Donato

A SAN JUAN traffic enforcer on Wednesday night was arrested for beating up his live-in partner and shooting his own father when he ran amuck in Mandaluyong City.

Police identified the suspect as PO3 Hilario Reyes, 36, a member of the San Juan Traffic Management Group and resident of Barangka Drive, Mandaluyong City.

PO1 Eloisa Lavapie, case investigator, said Reyes was drunk when he came home about 9:30 Wednesday.

For no apparent reason, Reyes started a fight with his 23-year-old live-in partner as soon as she opened the door for him.

Knowing that he could get violent whenever he was drunk, the woman hid inside the bathroom, the investigator said.

But Reyes managed to get his hands on his wife and beat her up, which roused the attention of their neighbors.

His father, Felix, 59, a Mandaluyong City Hall employee, tried to pacify Reyes and rescue the woman.

But Reyes pulled out his 9mm pistol and aimed at his father, who was able to duck for cover.

Police said that according to the wife, Reyes was a drug dependent and that his former wife had left him because of this habit.

2 Koreans injured in QC robberies

By Philip C. Tubeza

TWO KOREANS, a student and a missionary, were seriously injured in separate robberies in Quezon City Wednesday.

Missionary Lee Keung Kwan, 41, a native of Pusan, South Korea, and a resident of East Fairview, Quezon City, was shot in the leg and arms by three men on a motorcycle, the Central Police District reported yesterday.

Kwan had just withdrawn money from the Banco de Oro branch at the corner of Commonwealth Avenue and Winston Street in East Fairview when the men began to follow him about 11:45 a.m., said PO3 Greg Maramag, of the CPD-Criminal Investigation Unit.

The robbers on a red motorcycle then signaled Kwan, who was driving a Mitsubishi Lancer GLX (UJM-227), to stop and park on the side of the road, Maramag said.

But Kwan told police that instead of stopping, he stepped on the gas because he knew he was in danger.

The robbers chased his car and opened fire, hitting him, Maramag said.

The Fairview police got wind of the robbery and sent a patrol car to the scene.

When the suspects realized that the police were upon them, they stopped chasing Kwan and fled, Maramag added.

Investigators found eight empty shells of a 9mm pistol and three deformed slugs in the crime scene.

Ten hours later, student Ken C. Cheongi, 25, of Xavierville Avenue, Quezon City, was stabbed in the neck and arms during a bungled jeepney robbery, said PO2 William Aresta of the Kamuning police station.

The victim was on board a Manila-bound jeep when the suspects announced a holdup on E. Rodriguez Boulevard about 10 p.m., Aresta said.

The three robbers were armed with fan knives and tried to take Cheongi's wallet which contained $100 and P4,000, Aresta said.

The student tried to fight off the suspects, but the robbers ganged up on him and stabbed him, Aresta said.

They took Cheongi's wallet and fled, while the other jeepney passengers took the wounded victim to St. Luke's hospital, Aresta said.

3 nabbed in cell phone card network scam

By Michael Lim Ubac

THE NATIONAL Bureau of Investigation has uncovered a syndicate that defrauded small-time retailers in Metro Manila of about P5 million by selling to them non-existent pre-paid cell phone cards following the arrest of three people in an entrapment operation in Makati City.

NBI Deputy Director Rolito Utitco yesterday presented to reporters suspects Maria Jesusa de Jesus, 30, and Menandro Acuna, 37, both of Caloocan City; and Celso Angeles, 55, of Malabon.

Utitco said the suspects managed to collect about P5 million from several retailers in exchange for discounted Smart and Globe pre-paid cell phone cards.

When the suspects failed to deliver the cards, about 20 of the retailers sought assistance from the NBI.

NBI Deputy Director for Domestic Intelligence Service Samuel Ong said De Jesus started offering cell phone cards at discounted prices to the retailers from August to September this year.

Ong said De Jesus also enticed the first victims to recruit other prospective clients to invest in the cell cards through a networking scheme.

De Jesus told the victims that they first had to give her an advance payment before delivery of their order on a staggered basis, Ong said.

Convinced by De Jesus' sales pitch, the complainants said they gave her advance payments ranging from P50,000 to P1 million.

After she failed to deliver their orders, De Jesus went into hiding, Ong said.

Acting on the victims' complaint, Ong said his men conducted surveillance operations to trace De Jesus.

Last week, one of the complainants managed to arrange a meeting with De Jesus, Ong said.

The complainant then met De Jesus at Dusit Hotel in Makati, Ong said.

During this meeting, De Jesus, who was accompanied by Angeles, again demanded an advance payment of P500,000 for the cell phone cards for the release of the cell phone cards from a customs warehouse, Ong said.

At this point, NBI agents who were posted nearby arrested the suspects.

Ong said that during interrogation, Acuna appeared at the NBI Intelligence Service Office and introduced himself as the husband of De Jesus.

But when the complainants saw Acuna, they also asked for his arrest, saying that he was part of the group.

CLEAN-UP BRIGADE

Volunteers such as local residents, civic group members, about 1,000 divers and underwater photographers will join "The International Coastal Clean-up 2001" of Batangas beaches tomorrow. The clean-up is a joint venture of Nestle Philippines, through its Nestea Iced Tea brand, and the Friends of Balayan Bay (FOBB), an organization of resorts in the Bauan-Mabini-Tingloy area, more popularly known as Anilao or Balayan Bay.

Owners of Manor Hotel to answer charges today

OWNERS of the ill-fated Quezon City Manor Hotel are expected to show up today at the Quezon City Prosecutors' Office to answer the charges lodged against them in connection with the fire that struck the hotel and killed 74 people last month.

More than 50 other people were injured in the dawn fire that struck the hotel. Most of the victims were members of different born-again Christian groups who were attending a two-day conference sponsored by the Texas-based Don Clowers Ministries.

Assistant prosecutor Alfredo Agcaoili gave the hotel owners, couple William and Rebecca Genato, until today to submit their counter-affidavits on the charges of reckless imprudence resulting to mass homicide.

The prosecutor earlier gave the Genatos until Sept. 12 to answer the charges but the couple's lawyers sought an extension.

Lawyer Benito Ambrosio, counsel for the Genatos, earlier told reporters that the couple would personally submit their counter-affidavits to prove that they were not in hiding.

Since the fire, the Genato couple had not been seen in public except once when William reportedly visited the burned hotel during the rescue operations.

Ambrosio maintained that his clients were not in hiding. He said that the purported crime was not heinous after all.

Andrea Trinidad-Echavez

QC businesswoman robbed of ₱1 million

By Philip C. Tubeza

BUSINESSWOMAN Minda No-King, 46, lost P1 million in cash and jewelry to robbers who broke into her home in Quezon City Wednesday morning as she was about to leave.

No-King, of Barangay Sto. Domingo, Quezon City, said five armed men forced their way into her house when her maid Gloria Andales-Pena opened the gate, according to investigator SPO1 Edwin de la Cruz of the Central Police District-Criminal Investigation Unit.

Besides the jewelry and cash, the robbers also took three cellular phones, De la Cruz added.

No-King told investigators that the robbers struck at 6:15 a.m.

The robbers, armed with handguns, surprised the maid and forced their way into the house. They gathered everyone in the house on the first floor and ordered them to drop to the floor.

While three of the robbers guarded the frightened household, two of their companions went to the master bedroom and ransacked it.

After getting the cash, jewels and cell phones, the robbers fled.

SPO1 De la Cruz said the victims were able to describe one of the robbers. Investigators already have a sketch of him, he said.

Members of the CPD-Scene of the Crime Operations (Soco) team have searched the house for more clues.

Student stabbed dead

A 16-YEAR-OLD student on Wednesday night was stabbed dead allegedly by a member of a rival fraternity in Caloocan City, police said.

Marvin Liu, a resident of 2nd Avenue, Caloocan, suffered at least seven stab wounds in the body and died before he could be brought to the Jose Reyes Memorial Medical Center, police said.

Liu was walking along 1st Avenue when a certain "Nognog" attacked him near a gasoline station around 10 p.m. Wednesday, initial investigation showed.

Police said Nognog stabbed Liu and stopped only when the student collapsed on the pavement.

The suspect fled.

Investigators believe the killing was triggered by the long-running conflict between the gangs of Nognog and of Liu.

Christian V. Esguerra

Electrician shoots driver

A DRIVER on Wednesday night was killed while his companion was injured when a spurned man attacked them in Caloocan City, police said.

Alexander Nicolas, 29, died due to several gunshot wounds in the body, while his friend Lorenzo Lorenzo was injured in the right hand, police said. Both victims were residents of Isla San Juan, Maypajo, Caloocan.

An electrician, Inocencio Neri, 45, allegedly killed Nicolas over a woman, police said.

The two men were on board a pedicab in Maypajo when the gunman blocked their path and shot them with a .45-caliber pistol, initial investigation showed.

Police said both Neri and Nicolas were courting the same woman. The suspect is said to be married, according to police.

Authorities are set to file criminal charges against Neri before the city prosecutor's office.

Christian V. Esguerra

BUSINESS OPPORTUNITY MEETING

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Terrorist attacks shut down Hollywood, Broadway

THE EMMYS and Latin Grammys have been canceled, movie studios emptied and nearly the entire entertainment industry shut down in the wake of the devastating terrorist attacks in New York and Washington, D.C., early Tuesday morning.

In a brief statement, organizers of the Latin Grammys, set to be held in Los Angeles Tuesday night, announced they have postponed the ceremony indefnitely.

"Due to the unimaginable events that have occurred, the National Academy of Recording Arts and Sciences, the Latin Academy of Recording Arts and Sciences and CBS have canceled the second annual Latin Grammy Awards show.

CBS spokespeson Susan Marks said a new date has not yet been set.

Shortly after the Latin Grammys were canceled, CBS released a second statement confirming the 53rd Prime-Time Emmy Awards were also being put off. The awards had been slated for Sunday in Los Angeles.

"We will announce the new date of our awards show at the appropriate time."

All Emmy-related events, including a TV Academy reception and ball and Directors Guild and Writers Guild receptions have also been called off.

The attacks have sent shock waves throughout Hollywood and the entertainment industry at large. Major movie studios have been closed, production has been halted on most TV and movie projects, and only essential personnel are reporting to the TV networks.

Many non-news networks, such as ESPN, VH1 and even MTV switched from normal programming to coverage of the attacks.

Howard Stern broke his normal shock-jock radio routine to focus on the breaking news.

Disney and Universal have shut down their theme parks, and other amusement park operators were likely to follow suit.

"Fashion Week," the event of the year for New York's style mavens which began Monday, has been called off. There is no word yet on when it will be rescheduled.

Broadway theaters have also gone dark for the day.

In Canada, the Toronto Film Festival was shut down.

All courthouses in Los Angeles were also closed, forcing a delay in several cases, including a preliminary hearing in the child-abuse case against Paula Poundstone.

Madonna and the Black Crowes were among the major music acts canceling Tuesday night concerts.

All Major League Baseball games scheduled for Tuesday were called off.

Tens of thousands are feared dead in the attacks, which occurred just before 9 a.m. Tuesday.

David Angell, the Emmy-winning co-creator of "Frasier" and "Cheers," and his wife, Lynn, were aboard one of the planes that hit the World Trade Center.

Legal commentator Barbara Olson was on the ill-fated aircraft that struck the Pentagon.

'Asian Charlie's Angels' on AXN

VIEWFINDER

Nestor U. Torre

CHARLIE'S Angels are back—this time, with a decidedly sloc-eyed, Asian mystique. On Sept. 21 at 10 p.m. the AXN Action TV cable channel premieres the TV movie, "Asian Charlie's Angels," with the new female crimefighters setting their sights on the Asian underworld.

The TV movie, starring **Christy Chung**, **Kelly Lin His Lei** and **Annie Wu Chen Chun**, has a distinctly Oriental flavor, but the action is as modern and upbeat as the original Hollywood feature film topbilled by **Drew Barrymore**, **Cameron Diaz** and **Lucy Liu**.

Betty Tsui, AXN's VP for programming and acquisitions, reveals that the idea for an Asian version of the famous crimefighting troika was bruited about two years ago, when the Hollywood version was still in production.

In the TV movie, Chung plays a journalist and Lin and We are cast as private investigators. Their mission is to track down a wily and brilliantly evil serial killer who preys on rich, young Asian socialites.

"Asian Charlie's Angels" will be rebroadcast at 3 p.m. on Sept. 22, 10 p.m. on Sept. 30 and 3 p.m. on Oct. 1.

Broadway star in 'Sliders'

THE HALLMARK Channel's new series, "Sliders" (8 p.m., Monday through Friday) has gifted Broadway sensation **Cleavant Derricks** playing a major role.

Derricks won a Tony award for his performance in "Dreamgirls." His other Broadway credits include "Jesus Christ Superstar," "I Have A Dream" and "Your Arms Are Too Short."

In "Sliders," he plays Rembrandt "Crying Man" Brown, a member of the classic singing group, The Spinning Tops.

He gets sucked into the forceful momentum of the fist "slide" to the past when he passes in front of the house where the show's time-travel "portal" is situated, on the way to a performance.

Looking for Francis M

AFTER his recent run-in with the law allegedly involving grass, rapper an singer **Francis Magalona** has made himself scarce on TV and on the live-performance scene.

Some of his fans hope that he will soon reappear to clear his name. Despite this new controversy, they point out that Francis is deemed innocent before being proven guilty, and that he's too good a talent to stay down for the long count.

Vilma resurfaces

FOR HER part, was also sorely tempted last month to give the local scene a wide berth, due to the death threats she received for a raid on an illegal-drug lair in Lipa City, where she is the mayor.

Vilma reappeared on TV after a hiatus of some weeks to explain her "disappearance." No, she wasn't going to move to the United States to stay out of harm's way, she just went on leave for two weeks to review her options.

Now that she's gotten her equanimity back, Vilma is determined to see her latest crusade through, death threats and other pressures notwithstanding.

We hope that Vilma's significant film project for 2001, "Dekada '70," can now resume shooting, so we can watch it soon, perhaps as early as the Metro Manila Film Festival this December.

Feedback

FROM **Abigail R. Rivera** of Makati City: With the many problems you detailed in your INQUIRER series on local movies, the Filipino film industry should be helped by the government by way of reduced taxes and some incentives.

"If only a few movies are produced, the government will end up making less money, despite the big taxes it imposes on the movie industry's products.

"Viewers can also help by going out of their way to watch good Filipino movies, instead of just Hollywood films. If good local films lose money due to moviegoers' indifference, producers will stop making them, and our problems will become even worse than they already are . . ."

Our lives are forever altered . . .

(From page A31)

America is the land where dreams are fulfilled. The place where it's possible through hard work and lady luck to have a life of prosperity. A seemingly impenetrable land of peace, order and plenty. It is, after all, the one remaining superpower.

And last Tuesday night, our time, we saw America's vulnerability, and in seeing New York City devastated, we had to face the imminent reality that all our lives have been forever altered.

Whenever I'd ask my mom why she was so skinny in pictures of her childhood pictures and early teen years, she would tell me stories of the food rationing that she and the rest of the Filipinos in her generation had to go through. Rice was in such limited supply that the few times that they'd be able to share a whole chicken was considered a feast. Canned milk was a luxury.

Fears

I'm sure you've also received the text quoting Nostradamus' prophecy. In text form it went, "N d ct of York der will b a gr8 colpse, 2 twin bros torn aprt by chaos, while d 4tres fall, d gr8 lidr wil sucum, d 3rd bg war wil bgn wen d bg ct s burnin."

It would be impossible for America not to retaliate against its attackers. The words of President **George W. Bush** that "America won't make a distinction between the actual terrorists responsible for the attack and those that harbor them" signal how ominous the near future for the entire wold will be.

Remember how we had so many Y2K fears? How the millennium bug received so much attention nearly two years ago? Recall as well the reminder, after we survived the entrance of 2000, that the true new millennium is now, the year 2001.

I recall having interviewed both **Rene Mariano** and **Jojo Acuin** early in the year, and both had told me during our taping sessions that although the Philippines will have many internal problems, the bulk of our country's burden will be coming from external conditions that are beyond our control.

Mariano had said that in particular, events in the United States would have, as in the past, a profound effect on us.

Not Saddam

At that time, I had followed up by asking if he meant that the US economy would really fall in a recession and if ours would be crushed because of our dependence on the export industry and our reliance on imported raw materials. I didn't put much weight on his statement then, primarily because our country was still caught up in the post-impeachment fervor of a new beginning.

Mariano had even said in that interview that the Middle East would be again at odds with America. I'd countered that at that time I'd just read that Saddam Hussein's forces were already depleted and that they didn't have much funding left. Mariano said it wasn't Saddam, but there was definitely someone originating from that region who would be the mastermind of terrorist attacks.

He also cited the prophecy of Nostradamus.

Acuin said the catastrophes the world would be experiencing would be "fire-related," there would be many volcanic eruptions (they've happened in Italy and in our own Mayon) and many fatal plane crashes.

Prayer

What are we to do? I close this column with my favorite prayer, the "Memorare." Our Lady of Peace will clothe all of us with her mantle of protection. .

Remember, oh most gracious Virgin Mary, that never was it known that anyone who fled to your protection, implored your help and sought your intercession was left unaided. Inspired with this confidence, I hasten to you, o Virgin of virgins, my Mother. To you I come; before you I stand sinful and sorrowful. O Mother of the World Incarnate, do not despise my petition, but in your mercy hear and answer me. Amen.

Parokya to launch Padi's Octoberfest

PAROKYA ni Edgar will launch the "Mindave Octoberfest" with a concert tonight at the 510-seat Padi's Mindave restaurant bar on Mindanao Avenue in Quezon City.

It will be the country's earliest beer-drinking festival and will last three concert nights up to Sunday.

Also to be launched are the "Mindave Great Beer-Drinking Contest," the "Mindave Midnight Surprise" and games with surprise gifts. The restaurant bar offers special discounts on Budweiser, Lone Star, San Mig Light, Colt 45 and other beer brands during the three concert nights.

Tomorrow is "Latin Music Night" with the Part-E band. The exciting Mindave Tequila Bodyshots event will also be held tomorrow night. On Sunday, Westwood band performs.

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JULIE ANDREWS ANNE HATHAWAY

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People can't seem to get enough of Dish

SHOWBIZ TIDBITS

Leah Salterio

VERY few establishments, especially those offering entertainment for the after-dinner crowd, are full on a Monday night. But Dish, at the third level of Rockwell's Power-plant Mall, was filled to the brim even at the start of the week.

We were at Dish last Monday and the place was packed. Perhaps because it was the retro band, Mulatto, which was performing that night. But Dish always teems with people any day of the week, even for lunch.

Two weeks ago, we went to Dish on a Wednesday night. The place was full—and it was not even payday. Unless you have a reservation, you'll be lucky if you can get a seat right away.

My favorite corner at Dish is the elevated area on the left side, facing the stage. I always prefer the table against the wall, under the TV monitor, because of the cushioned seats. It's the perfect place because it's near the bar and the restrooms, and you have a perfect view of the performers onstage.

Two weeks ago, when I told someone I would treat some friends at Dish for my birthday, he sent me a text message and said, "I heard it's very expensive at Dish."

When I told another friend that I had a small birthday celebration at Dish, she said, "*Ang sosyal mo naman.*"

While the ambiance of Dish is definitely upscale, you'd be surprised that the prices of the food are very affordable. The other restaurants at Rockwell are twice more expensive. And even if there's a band nightly at Dish, the place doesn't require any cover charge or minimum consummable, like most night haunts.

The food at Dish is served by specialty restaurants, but all under one mind-boggling menu. It will take you forever to decide what to eat since there are dozens of appetizers and entrees to choose from.

If you go for Italian, Japanese, Filipino, Thai or even Vietnamese, you can all find them at Dish.

My friend, **Fides**, loved the Thai pork balls with lemon chili sauce for appetizer and the shrimp and salmon salad with balsamic dressing.

During another visit, she tried the seafood noodles of Pho Viet and she finished the regular serving by her lonesome.

My other friend, **Tere**, had a second serving of the salmon belly (which I also crave for) in one sitting. There are certain days, however, when the salmon belly is not available at Dish.

The Tapas Tapas corner boasts of menu inspired by the recipes of Las Paellas Restaurant. Owner of the nook is **Ramir Orteza**, son-in-law of the famous Spanish restaurateur, Señor **Alba**.

During the day, Ramir works as corporate affairs writer at GMA 7.

We liked the champignon at Tapas Tapas because the mushrooms are grilled with butter. They also serve two kinds of gambas and their blueberry cheesecake is perfect for dessert.

The meat at Steak Factory is served by the Melo's Group, but the prices are suited for the Dish clientele.

If you go for pizza and pasta, try the lineup from Luna Pizzeria.

My editor, **Louie Camino**, loved the tofu steak at Hoshi, which serves Japanese cuisine.

Another thing I love about Dish is its barangay meals, which range from *kare-kare* to *laing*. The menu also includes *pinakbet, ubod, pocherong bulalo* and squid *sisig*.

About rice, Dish doesn't just serve garlic or plain. It also has *adobo* rice, *bagoong* rice and *hito* flakes rice.

Dish is owned by three enterprising businessmen—**EJ Litton, Philip Cu-Unjieng** and **Rikki Dee**. EJ also owns Stars, while Rikki owns Crocodile and is part owner of Kitchen (with **Ricco Ocampo**).

It was at Dish where we also attended the birthday party of "Cool Dudes" star **Cogie Domingo** last month. It was hosted by Penshoppe, the trendy garment line Cogie is endorsing.

Gary Valenciano also had his birthday celebration at Dish, where the guests were treated to a jamming session with Gary, **Martin Nievera** and **Zsa Zsa Padilla** onstage.

This month, Dish features different bands every night—Mulatto on Mondays, Spirit of '67 on Tuesdays, Velvet on Wednesdays, Next Level and Soulid on Thursdays, Pido With Take One and Dye Vest on Fridays, Rage and Time and a Half on Saturdays.

On the last Thursday of September, Side A will hold a special performance at Dish.

You can go visit Dish, enjoy the food and entertainment. That should give you reason to return.

Original artist

SANDRA Chavez, the talent manager of **Sharon Cuneta**, pointed out to us that the original artist of the romantic ballad, "If I'm Not in Love With You" is **Dawn Thomas**.

It was released as a cut in the "Indecent Proposal" soundtrack, the box-office hit which starred **Robert Redford** and **Demi Moore**.

Kathy Trocolli, however, recorded her own version of the song.

In my review of Sharon's concert at Onstage in Greenbelt (*PDI-Entertainment—09/02/01*), we wrote that it was Kathy Trocolli who sang "If I'm Not in Love with You," one of our favorite ballads.

Sharon's version was as beautiful as the original artist; she made me teary-eyed when she rendered the song.

Belinda tries acting

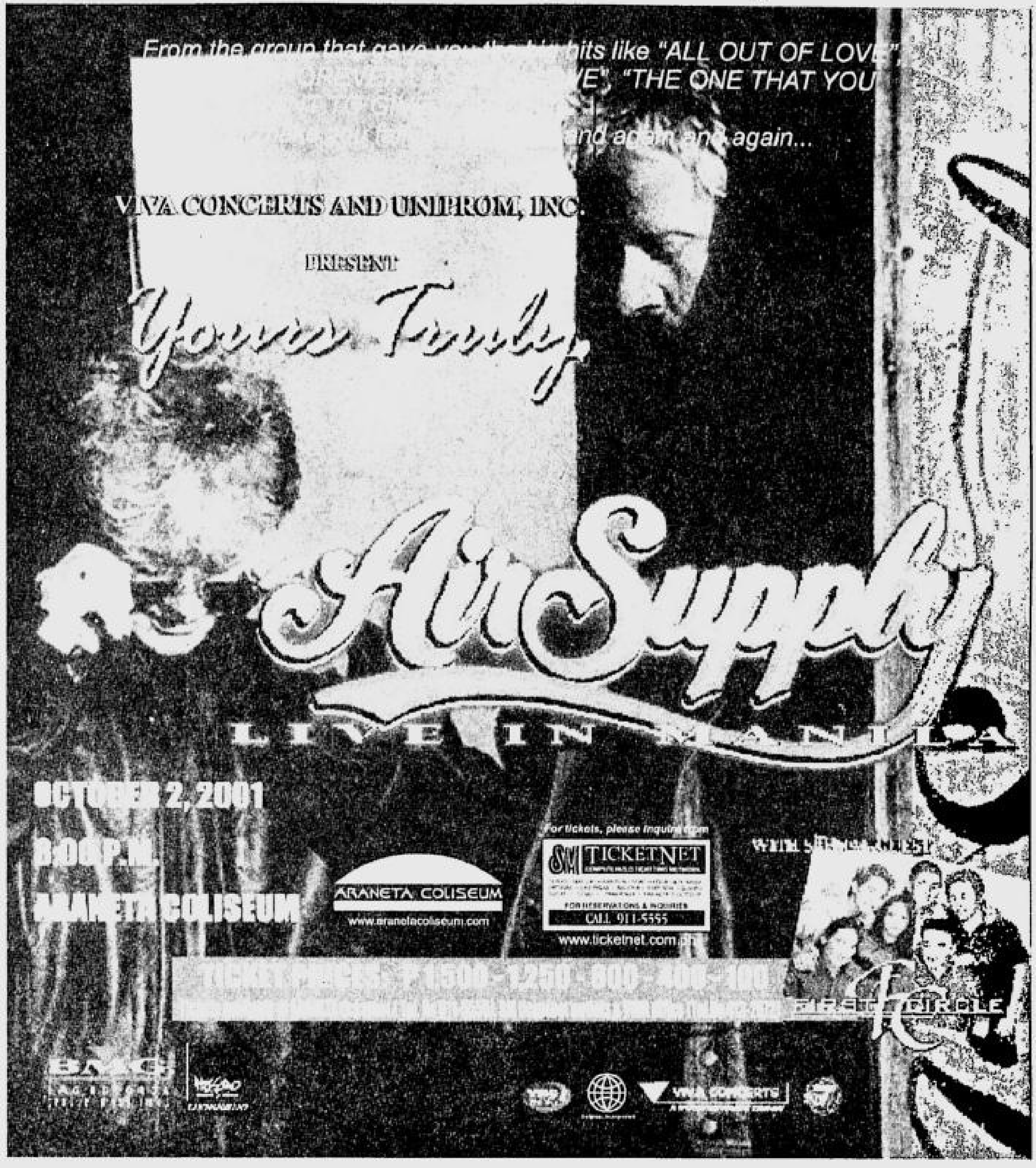
WE WENT home early last Tuesday to catch the new episode of "Sex and the City" on HBO, since **Matthew McConaughey** was guesting.

But we got home earlier than we thought and we caught that night's episode of the **Judy Ann Santos-Piolo Pascual** soap series, "Sa Puso Ko Iingatan Ka," on ABS-CBN.

We were surprised to see MTV Asia VJ **Belinda Panelo** acting on TV. She plays **Isabel Borromeo**, the girl from Davao who was a former girlfriend of Piolo.

From what we saw, Belinda's character appears to be a *contravida*. When we told a writer-friend that Belinda was playing a *contravida* in a soap series, she remarked, "A face like that can't be *a bida.*"

Viewers who followed Belinda's rise to fame on MTV Asia may indeed be surprised by her decision to try drama. But Belinda's acting was neither bad nor funny. If at all, she didn't come across as a "trying-hard" actress.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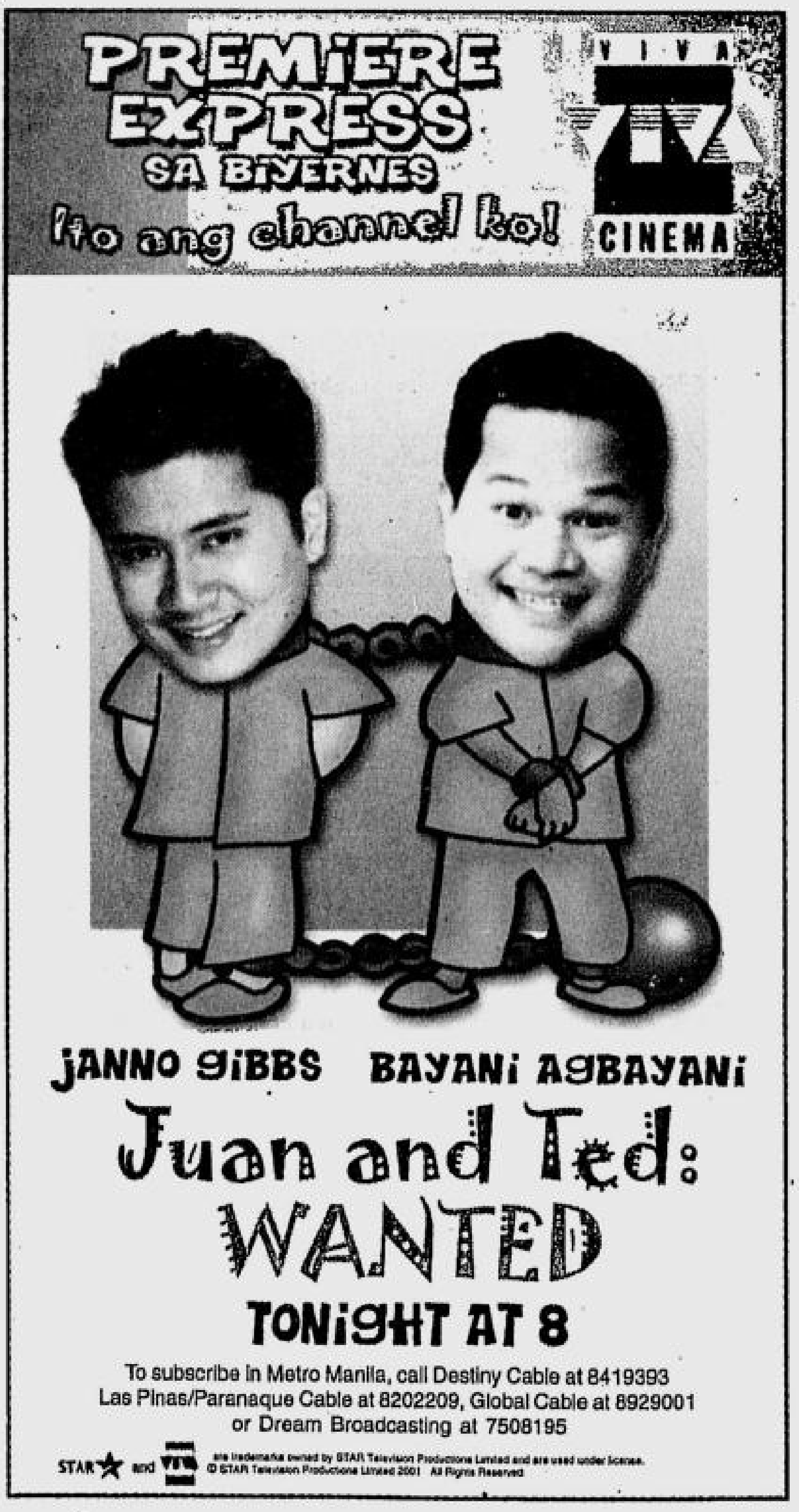
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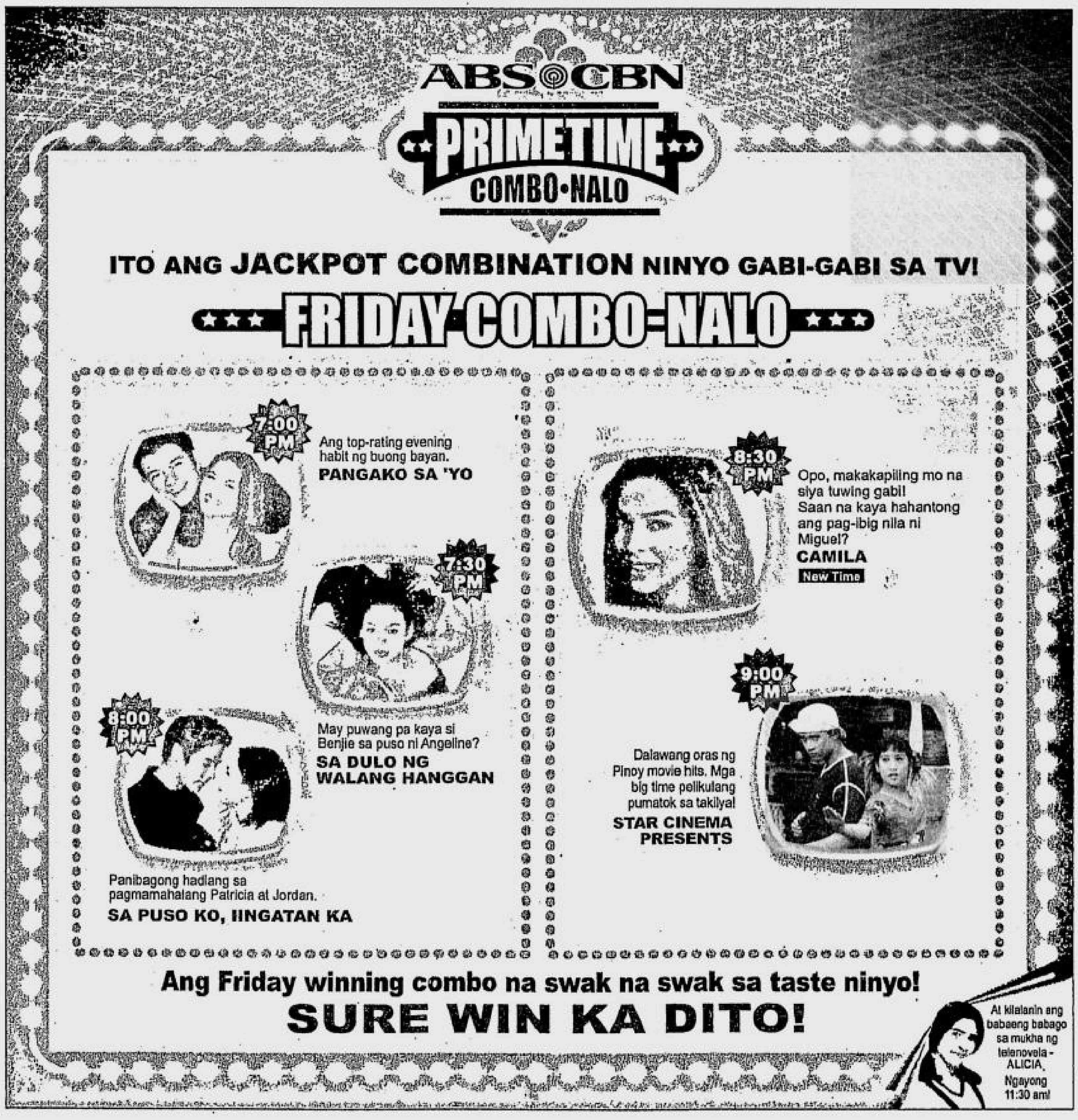
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5	XIU XIU: THE SENT DOWN GIRL — in DOLBY DIGITAL SOUND
6	ARTIFICIAL INTELLIGENCE — in DTS/SDDS DIGITAL SOUND
7	ENEMY AT THE GATES — in DTS DIGITAL SOUND

GREENBELT

1	A KNIGHT'S TALE — in DOLBY STEREO DIGITAL SOUND
2	SCARY MOVIE 2 — in SONY DYNAMIC DIGITAL SOUND
3	ENEMY AT THE GATES — in DOLBY STEREO DIGITAL SOUND
4	WOLFGANG LIVE! SEPT. 14 - 8 PM — Onstage

ALABANG TOWN CENTER

1	SCARY MOVIE 2 THX — in DSD/SDDS DIGITAL SOUND
2	A KNIGHT'S TALE — in DSD DOLBY DIGITAL SOUND
3	ARTIFICIAL INTELLIGENCE — in DTS DIGITAL SOUND
4	RUSH HOUR 2 — in DTS DIGITAL SOUND
5	ENEMY AT THE GATES — in DTS DIGITAL SOUND

MMTA
METRO MANILA THEATERS ASSOCIATION

MOVIE GUIDE
NOW SHOWING
EMAIL: mmta@asia.com

Filinvest FESTIVAL CINEMA
(Muntinlupa) tel 850.3571 or 72

1 (DDS)	SHREK
2 (SDDS)	RUSH HOUR 2
3 (DTS)	ENEMY AT THE GATES
4 GOLD (DTS)	A.I.
5 GOLD (DOLBY)	ENEMY AT THE GATES
6 GOLD (SDDS)	KNIGHT'S TALE
7 GOLD (DOLBY)	SCARY MOVIE 2
8 [illegible]	BAKIT DI TOTOHANIN
9 [illegible]	MANO MANO 2
10 [illegible]	BANYO QUEEN

Pearl Plaza Cinemas
(Parañaque) tel. 853.4486

1	A.I.
2	
3 (DTS)	
4	
5	
6 (DTS)	
Golden Pearl THX	

Masagana CINEMAX 1-2 & 3
(Kalaw) tel 536.4315

1 (DOLBY)	KNIGHT'S TALE
2 (DTS)	CROCODILE 2
3	BANYO QUEEN

Masagana CINEMA
(Pasay) tel 831.6603

1	BANYO QUEEN
2	A.I.
3	MANO MANO 2

starmall Movies
(Shaw Blvd.) tel 724.4986

1	MANO MANO 2
2	BANYO QUEEN
3	BAKIT DI TOTOHANIN
4 (DOLBY DIGITAL)	KNIGHT'S TALE
5	A.I.

Metropolis
(Alabang) tel 543.4001

1	BAKIT DI TOTOHANIN
2	BUKAS MAY LIGAYA
3	MANO MANO 2
4	BANYO QUEEN
5	SCARY MOVIE 2
6	KNIGHT'S TALE
7	RESERVE
8	RESERVE

PREMIERE CINEMA THX
(Makati City) Tel. 7053152 - 55

ENEMY AT THE GATES

Center Plaza Cinema
(Balanga, Bataan) tel (047) 237.7007

1	BAKIT DI TOTOHANIN
2	PLANET OF THE APES

FCM FAIRVIEW CENTER MALL, INC.
tel 930.9515

1	KNIGHT'S TALE
2	MANO MANO 2
3	PRIVATE TEACHER

Spring
(Libertad, Pasay City) tel 831.7864

1	SYOTA NG BAYAN
A	HOT LOVER

Sunshine
(FTI, Taguig) tel 838.4301 loc. 3376

1	BANYO QUEEN
2	MANO MANO 2
3	KNIGHT'S TALE
4	

GOTESCO CINEMA

City
(Manila) tel 734.8589

1 (DOLBY)	BANYO QUEEN
2	RESERVE
3	RESERVE
4	RUSH HOUR 2
5	A.I.
6	MANO MANO 2
7 (DTS)	ENEMY AT THE GATES
8 (SDDS)	KNIGHT'S TALE
9 (DOLBY)	SCARY MOVIE 2

Caloocan
tel 362.3508

2	BANYO QUEEN

Grand Central
(Caloocan) tel 364.3781

1	BANYO QUEEN
2	BAKIT DI TOTOHANIN
3	MANO MANO 2
4 (SDDS)	KNIGHT'S TALE
5	BANYO QUEEN
6 (DOLBY)	SCARY MOVIE 2
7 (DTS)	ENEMY AT THE GATES
8	RUSH HOUR 2
9	A.I.

Commonwealth
tel 951.0083

1 (DTS)	ENEMY AT THE GATES
2	BANYO QUEEN
3	MANO MANO 2
4	RUSH HOUR 2
5 (SDDS)	KNIGHT'S TALE
6	BAKIT DI TOTOHANIN
7 (DOLBY)	SCARY MOVIE 2
8	A.I.

Ortigas
tel 656.6795

1	BANYO QUEEN
2	MANO MANO 2
3 (DTS)	ENEMY AT THE GATES
4	SCARY MOVIE 2
5 (SDDS)	KNIGHT'S TALE

Universal
(Manila) tel 733.2470

1	BANYO QUEEN

Sampaguita
(Cubao) tel 911.7888

1	BANYO QUEEN

Dilson
(Manila) tel 734.7724

Dilson	MAGENTA
Lords	NIGHT JOB
Jennet	RESERVE

THE MARKETPLACE Mandaluyong
tel 533.3851 / 533.3856

1	KNIGHT'S TALE
2	BANYO QUEEN
3	RESERVE
4	MANO MANO 2

Prima
(Pasig) tel 641.1215

3	MANO MANO 2

Isetann Cinerama Complex Recto SUPER CINERAMA
tel 733.4238

1 (DOLBY)	BANYO QUEEN
2	SCARY MOVIE 2
3	BAKIT DI TOTOHANIN
4	MANO MANO 2
5	KNIGHT'S TALE

New Divisoria Mall DIVISORIA CINEMA
tel 244.4619

1	BANYO QUEEN
2	MANO MANO 2
3	KNIGHT'S TALE
4	RESERVE
5	RESERVE
6	PAREHAS ANG LABAN

Baclaran LRT LRT CINEMA
tel 512.0115

1 (DOLBY)	MANO MANO 2
2	BANYO QUEEN
3	RESERVE

Berma
tel 879-2029 or 30

1	MANO MANO 2
2	BANYO QUEEN

CitiMall
(Parañaque) tel 820.7269

1	BANYO QUEEN
2	
3	
4	

CINEMA 2000

Cinema 2000 Target Mall
(Sta. Rosa Laguna) tel (049) 534.2185 / 534.2198

1	SCARY MOVIE 2
2	BANYO QUEEN
3 (DTS)	ENEMY AT THE GATES

Cinema 2000 Waltermart
(Calamba) tel (049) 545.7383

1	KNIGHT'S TALE
2 (DTS)	BANYO QUEEN
3 (DOLBY)	ENEMY AT THE GATES
4	SCARY MOVIE 2

Cinema 2000 Pavilion Mall
(Biñan) Tel. (049) 411-1146

1	BANYO QUEEN
2 (DOLBY)	KNIGHT'S TALE
3 (DTS)	ENEMY AT THE GATES
4	SCARY MOVIE 2

Cinemagix
(Urdaneta) tel(075) 568.6771

1	RUSH HOUR 2
2	BAKIT DI TOTOHANIN
3	SOON TO OPEN
4	SOON TO OPEN

Lianas Cinema
(Alabang) tel 850.1276

1 (SDDS)	KNIGHT'S TALE
2	NAKED EYE
3	BANYO QUEEN
4 (DTS)	MANO MANO 2

Lianas MovieCity
(Calamba) tel (049) 545.7202

1 (DOLBY)	KNIGHT'S TALE
2	BANYO QUEEN
3 (DTS)	ENEMY AT THE GATES
4	SCARY MOVIE 2
5	PAREHAS ANG LABAN

Olivarez Tri-Cinema
(Biñan) tel (049) 511.8883

1	BANYO QUEEN
2	SCARY MOVIE 2
3	ENEMY AT THE GATES

Olivarez Los Baños
tel (049) 536.5101

1	BANYO QUEEN
2	SCARY MOVIE 2
3	ENEMY AT THE GATES

Olivarez Tagaytay
tel (046) 413.0311

1	RUSH HOUR 2
2	BAKIT DI TOTOHANINN
3	SHREK

Morales Cinema
(Biñan) tel (049) 511.9736

1	BANYO QUEEN
2	KNIGHT'S TALE
3	PAREHAS ANG LABAN

Cabuyao
(Laguna City) tel (049) 531.4808

1 (DTS)	BANYO QUEEN
2 (DTS)	

Fourstep
(Cavite) tel (046) 416.2365

1	BANYO QUEEN

Emperor
(Rosario Cavite) tel (046) 438.1657

1	CROCODILE 2
2	BANYO QUEEN
3	PAREHAS ANG LABAN

Fiesta World Mall
(Lipa) tel (043) 981.0790

1	PAREHAS ANG LABAN
2	A.I.
3	BAKIT DI TOTOHANIN
4	SHREK

Jade Cinema
(Angeles City) tel (045) 887.5001 to 03

1 (DOLBY EX)	SCARY MOVIE 2
2	BAKIT DI TOTOHANIN
3	BANYO QUEEN
4 (DTS EX)	A.I.

*Movies are subject to change without prior notice

ADVANCED SCREENING THX DOLBY DIGITAL dts SDDS

THX
CMG INTERNATIONAL
PREMIERE CINEMA THX
NOW SHOWING
ONE MAN CAN WIN THE WAR.
ENEMY AT THE GATES
united international pictures
VIVA

ROBINSONS MOVIEWORLD

http://www.robinsonsmovieworld.com

NOW SHOWING
State-Of-The-Art-Cinemas

GALLERIA
632-9115-16 / 633-7641 loc. 279

1 THX	A KNIGHT'S TALE
2	A KNIGHT'S TALE
3	ENEMY AT THE GATES
4	SCARY MOVIE 2
5	BANYO QUEEN
6	RUSH HOUR 2
7	BAKIT DI TOTOHANIN
8	CROCODILE 2
9	A.I.
10	SHREK

ERMITA
536-7809 TO 12

1	A KNIGHT'S TALE
2	RUSH HOUR 2
3	CROCODILE 2
4	A.I.
5	BANYO QUEEN
6	SCARY MOVIE 2
7	ENEMY AT THE GATES

NOVALICHES
935-3229 TO 31

1	MANO MANO 2
2	A KNIGHT'S TALE
3	RESERVE
4	A KNIGHT'S TALE
5	ENEMY AT THE GATES
6	BANYO QUEEN
7	ENEMY AT THE GATES
8	A.I.

IMUS
(046) 471-8168

1	A KNIGHT'S TALE
2	SCARY MOVIE 2
3	BANYO QUEEN
4	ENEMY AT THE GATES
5	BAKIT DI TOTOHANIN
6	MANO MANO 2

BACOLOD
(034) 441-0453

1	SCREAM... FRIDAY 13TH
2	BAKIT DI TOTOHANIN
3	ANIMAL
4	SHREK
5	PLANET OF THE APES
6	PAREHAS ANG LABAN

SOON TO OPEN
METRO EAST
SAN FERNANDO PAMPANGA
ILOILO

THX dts SDDS DOLBY DOLBY STEREO

SMART MONEY ACCEPTED AT ROBINSONS MOVIEWORLD GALLERIA AND ERMITA.

THEATER MOVIE GUIDE

ARANETA CENTER THEATERS 911-3101	
ALI MALL CINEPLEX-1	BANYO QUEEN
ALI MALL CINEPLEX-2	BAKIT DI TOTOHANIN
ALI MALL CINEPLEX-3 (DDS)	A KNIGHT'S TALE
ALI MALL CINEPLEX-4 (SDDS)	ARTIFICIAL INTELLIGENCE
ALI MALL CINEPLEX-5 (DTS)	RUSH HOUR 2
ALI MALL CINEPLEX-6 (DOLBY)	ENEMY AT THE GATES
ALI MALL CINEPLEX-7 (DOLBY)	SCARY MOVIE 2
FARMERS PLAZA-1 (DOLBY)	BANYO QUEEN
FARMERS PLAZA-2 (DOLBY)	MANO MANO 2
FIESTA CARNIVAL	CLOSED FOR RENOVATION
NEW FRONTIER	CLOSED FOR RENOVATION
MANILA	
EASTERN	
MAXIM	CLOSED
MIRAMAR	AMORSEKO / KAMASUTRA 2001
ODEON	BANYO QUEEN
ODEON-2	CROCODILE 2
ROBEN	MANO MANO 2
TANDEM-1	SEX MEDUSA
TANDEM-2	SEX EDUCATION
TIMES	TOM RAIDER / ALONG CAME A SPIDER
QUEZON CITY	
ACT-1	SENSUAL ISLAND
ACT-2	KAYA KO PERO MASAKIT
ACT-3	CLOSED
ACT-4	CLOSED
CORONET-2	TOMB RAIDERS / GET CARTER
QUEZON-1	MANO MANO 2
REMAR	MANO MANO 2
REMAR-2	ARTIFICIAL INTELLIGENCE
NOVA MALL - NOVALICHES CINEMA	
A	BANYO QUEEN
B	MANO MANO 2
C	
MANDALUYONG CITY	
SHANGRI-LA PLAZA MALL	635-20-79 / 633-78-51 TO 70
CINEMA-1	ASIAN CHILDREN ARTS FESTIVAL
CINEMA-2	A KNIGHT'S TALE
CAINTA RIZAL	
STA. LUCIA EAST	(681-5401 TO 19)
CINEMA-1	BAKIT DI TOTOHANIN
CINEMA-2	PAREHAS ANG LABAN
CINEMA-3	RUSH HOUR 2
CINEMA-4 (DOLBY DIGITAL)	A.I.
CINEMA-5 (DTS)	PLANET OF THE APES
CINEMA-6	SEX EDUCATION
CINEMA-7	BAKIT DI TOTOHANIN
CINEMA-8	KISS OF THE DRAGON
CINEMA-9 (DTS)	A.I.
CINEMA-10 (DOLBY DIGITAL)	RUSH HOUR 2
CINEMA-11 (SDDS)	A.I.
CINEMA-12	CROCODILE 2
CINEMA-14	SHREK
CINEMA-15	BAKIT DI TOTOHANIN
LORES	
CINEMA-2	CLOSED
CINEMA-3	CLOSED
POWER PLANT CINEMA	
CINEMA-1	MOULIN ROUGE
CINEMA-2	A KNIGHT'S TALE
CINEMA-3	ARTIFICIAL INTELLIGENCE
CINEMA-4	SCARY MOVIE 2
CINEMA-5	SHREK
CINEMA-6	ENEMY AT THE GATES
UNIWIDE METROMALL	
(LAS PIÑAS)	
CINEMA-1	RESERVE
CINEMA-2	RESERVE
CINEMA-4	RESERVE
UNIWIDE COASTAL MALL	
(PARAÑAQUE)	
CINEMA-1	WINASAK NA PANGARAP
CINEMA-2	STONE
CINEMA-4	BOBOT

"TRIP" cast member John Pratts.

'Trip' movie promo

ISLANDS Souvenirs, a licensee partner of ABS-CBN in the upcoming Star Cinema movie "Trip," has captured the interest of the youth with their "Trip"-themed merchandise, now available in all Islands Souvenirs stores nationwide.

"Trip" stars Marvin Agustin and Kristine Hermosa, with Paolo Contis, John Pratts, Desiree del Valle, Heart Evangelista, Julia Clarete and Jericho Rosales.

Considered as the country's leading souvenir brand, Islands Souvenirs will soon start a new trend in style and fashion for the youth with their hip, colorful outfits and accessories.

With every P300 purchase of their eye-catching shirts, shorts, caps, shades and accessories, each customer gets a chance to win "Trip" eyewear and posters, limited edition shirts and pouch bags, cinema passes, Islands Souvenirs die-cut fans, ABS-CBN studio tour gift certificates and the original motion picture soundtrack of "Trip" in CDs or cassettes.

The special collection features the music of hot, young bands like Barbie's Cradle, Freshmen, Chocolate Beef and Gladys and the Boxers.

"Trip" CDs or cassettes are specially priced and are available in all Islands Souvenirs stores nationwide.

Weekend gimmick nights

THE MILD Seven tour team is back on the bar scene as they liven up weekend gimmick nights with the smooth, clear taste of Mild Seven.

This weekend, the Mild Seven models will introduce a new game called "Truth or Dare," as they head out to Pasig on Sept. 14 and Alabang on Sept. 15.

"Truth or Dare" hits the Pasig trail which includes 8th Day, Friends, San Mig, Ten Years After, Tequila Joe's, Watering Hole, Whistle-Stop, Carrera M and Congo Grille.

Those who dare to participate will win premium items like shirts and caps from Mild Seven.

Regulars of Cable Car, Fat Tuesday, Gameworx, Padi's Point, San Mig, Studio 1, Tequila Joe's, WhistleStop and Giligans in Alabang get their chance to win fabulous prizes when they join the "Truth or Dare" game on Saturday.

ENTERTAINMENT

Louie C. Camino, Editor

Our lives are forever altered by terrorist attacks on US

KRIS AND TELL

Kris Aquino

THE COLUMN I'd originally written seemed so mundane and inappropriate considering what the United States has undergone, so I decided to scrap it and start anew.

When I viewed CNN's coverage of "America Under Attack," my mind rested on the simple truth that every day, every additional day we have on earth, is a special gift.

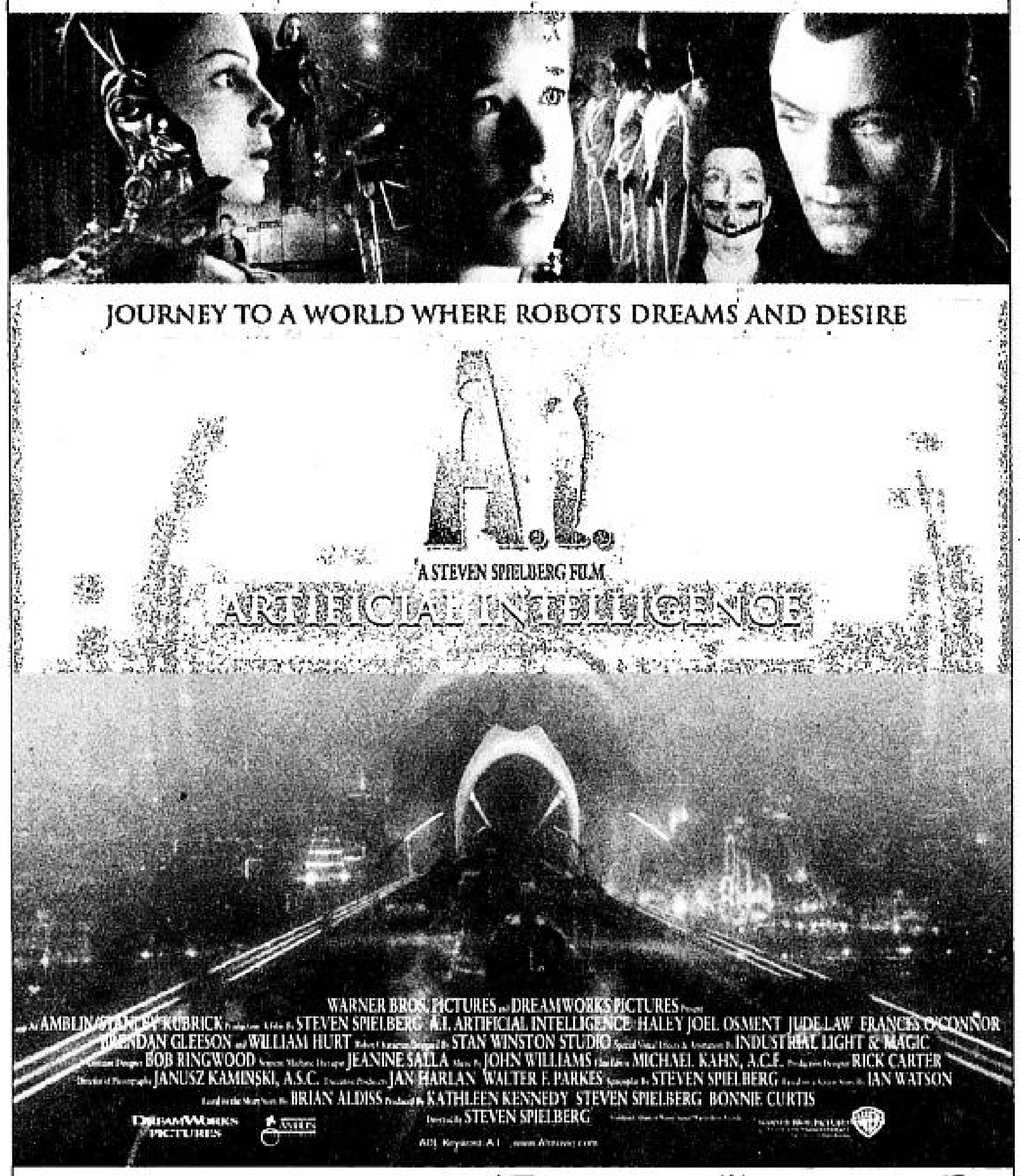
We make plans for tomorrow, and that's good. Especially when you're a parent, there really has to be an effort to make provisions for the future. There are educational plans to insure your child's college years will be taken care of. There are health care plans to make sure you'll have sufficient hospital and medical care. There are pension plans for when you retire to make sure you'll be able to do so in relative comfort. There are even memorial plans to make your passing away as organized and hassle-free for those you leave behind.

Superpower

Yet as the attack on America has proven, all you have to do is be a dedicated worker, at your desk at 9 a.m. ready to face the day's challenges, and your life can be mercilessly stolen from you. All you have to do is take a morning domestic cross-country flight headed west and be stunned when hijackers gain control of your flight, and then be aware near the moment of impact of your flight's suicidal destination.

For us Filipinos,

OUR/ A28



THE FILM THAT SHOOK THE WORLD IS HERE !
SECOND WEEK in Manila, Cebu & Iloilo
MTRCB RATING PG – 13 Children below 13 yrs. old will only be allowed if accompanied by a parent or adult
HALEY JOEL OSMENT JUDE LAW
JOURNEY TO A WORLD WHERE ROBOTS DREAMS AND DESIRE
A.I.
A STEVEN SPIELBERG FILM
ARTIFICIAL INTELLIGENCE
WARNER BROS. PICTURES and DREAMWORKS PICTURES present AMBLIN/STANLEY KUBRICK STEVEN SPIELBERG A.I. ARTIFICIAL INTELLIGENCE HALEY JOEL OSMENT JUDE LAW FRANCES O'CONNOR BRENDAN GLEESON and WILLIAM HURT STAN WINSTON STUDIO INDUSTRIAL LIGHT & MAGIC BOB RINGWOOD JEANINE SALLA JOHN WILLIAMS MICHAEL KAHN, A.C.E. RICK CARTER JANUSZ KAMINSKI, A.S.C. JAN HARLAN WALTER F. PARKES STEVEN SPIELBERG IAN WATSON BRIAN ALDISS KATHLEEN KENNEDY STEVEN SPIELBERG BONNIE CURTIS STEVEN SPIELBERG
SMART

WITNESS "THE COOLEST ROYAL TRANSFORMATION"
OPENS IN CINEMAS SEPTEMBER 19
MTRCB RATING G ALL AGES ADMITTED
From The Director Of "PRETTY WOMAN" and "RUNAWAY BRIDE"
Julie Andrews Anne Hathaway
"A hip, funny and moving modern-day fairy tale."
Sara Edwards, NBC-TV BOSTON
THE PRINCESS DIARIES
Distributed by Buena Vista International thru Columbia Pictures

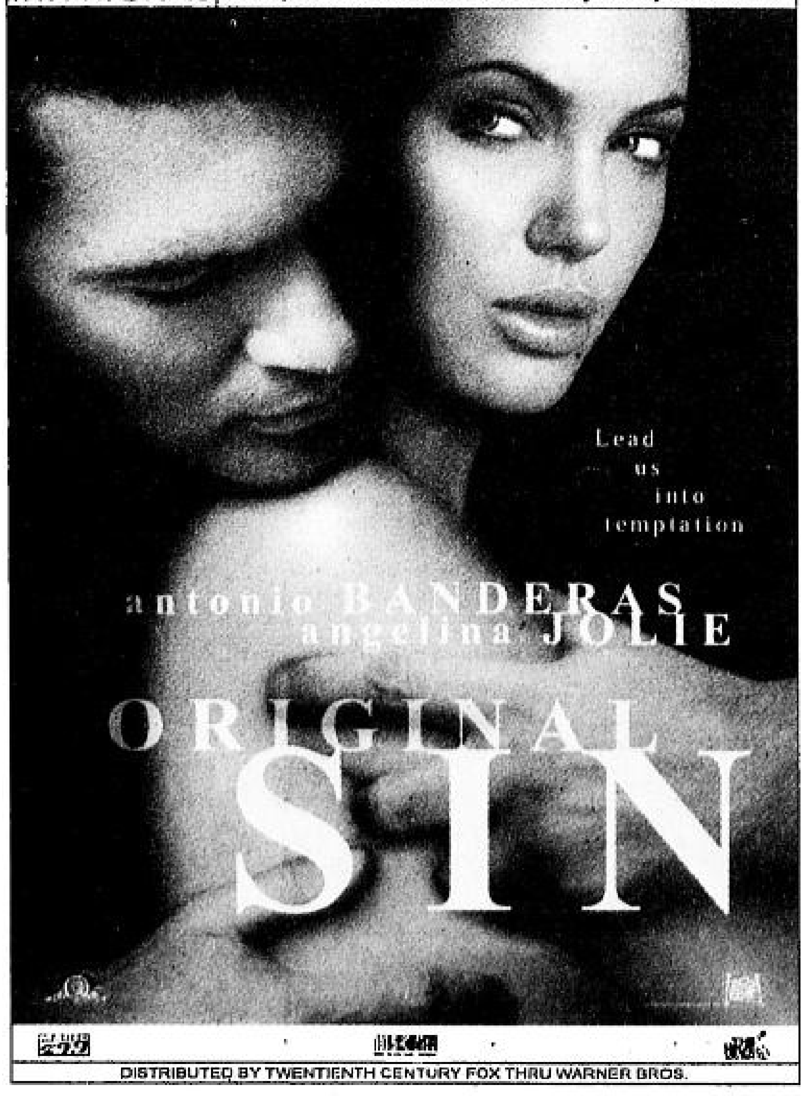
AYALA CINEMAS ARTFILM - GLORIETTA 4 Art Film
OPENS SEPT. 19 (WED.)
THE INVISIBLE CIRCUS
A MUST SEE!
CAMERON DIAZ SHINES IN THIS FILM!
THE INVISIBLE CIRCUS
Jordana Brewster Christopher Eccleston & Cameron Diaz
Based on Jennifer Egan's first novel, follows the journey of eighteen-year-old Phoebe, who travels to Europe in the late 1970s to find out what had caused the death of her sister, Faith, several years earlier while traveling there with her boyfriend, Wolf. On her journey of discovery, Phoebe retraces Faith's trail from San Francisco to Paris, and finally to Portugal to the very cliff side village where Faith had committed suicide – but not before experiencing a bad LSD trip and sleeping with her dead sister's boyfriend first. It's a haunting tale that interweaves death, mystery, memory and loss. But more than that, it delves into the fathomless pith of the '60s – a generation whose dreamers indulged in ideals that seemed to turn the world, and their own lives, upside-down and inside-out.

AYALA CINEMAS ARTFILM - GLORIETTA 4 Art Film
NOW SHOWING
MTRCB RATING PG-13 Children below 13 yrs. old will only be allowed if accompanied by a parent or adult.
PHILIPPINE PREMIERE
TRIPLE WINNER!
SUNDANCE FILM FESTIVAL
Audience Award: Dramatic
Cinematography Award: Dramatic & Grand Jury Prize: Dramatic
THREE SEASONS
Starring: Harvey Keitel, Lola Al Guimond, Don Duong & Nguyen Ngoc Hiep
Three Seasons tells three tangentially related stories: a romance between a forward-thinking prostitute and a cyclo driver; a street kid who loses his case of cheap trinkets; and a student of a reclusive teacher/poet who has lost his fingers to leprosy. Each of the stories is quite simple, but together they create a complex, layered experience of a country simultaneously caught up in its own past, present and future.
Vietnamese-American Bui's film has the distinction of being the first American production to shoot in Vietnam since the War. A cinematic poem that works more as a reflective mood piece than a traditional story. Bui's lyrical script and Rinzler's magical camera work combine to create an original, lasting motion picture.
Language: Vietnamese w/ English sub-titles

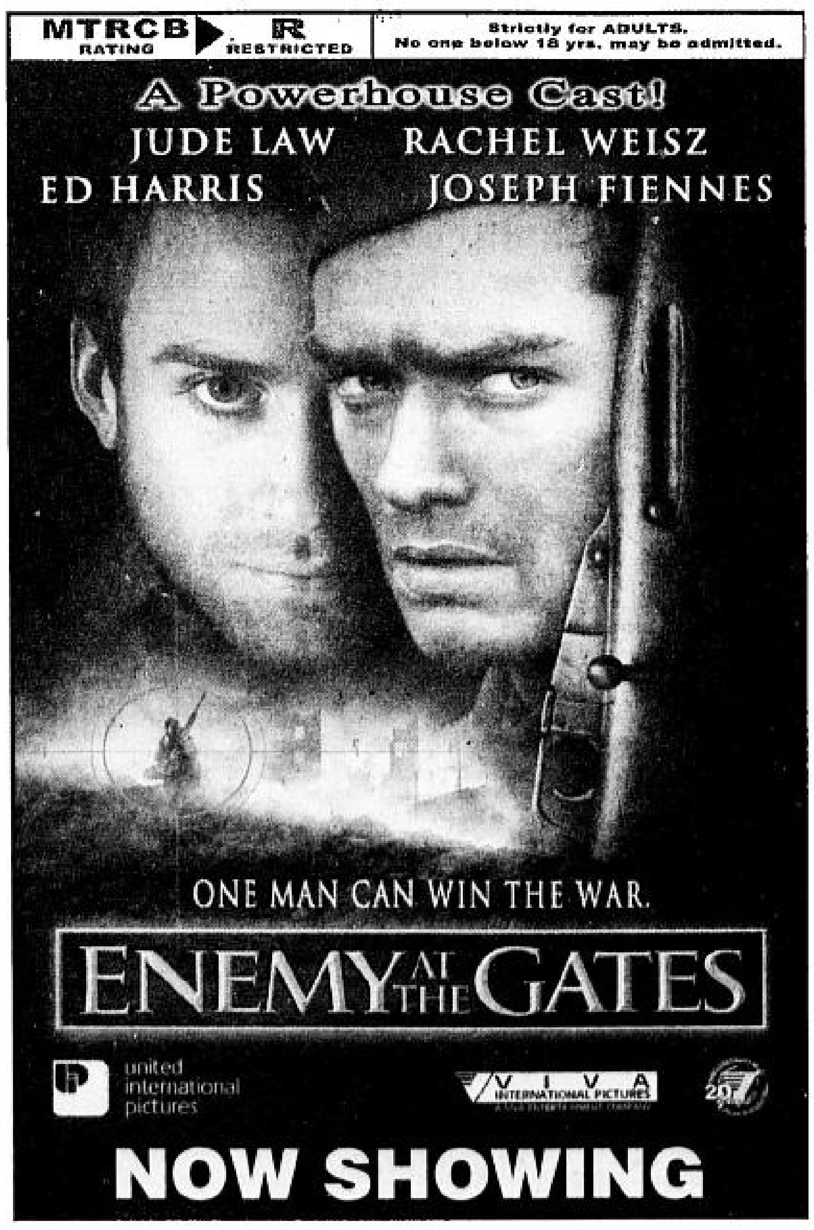
POWER PLANT CINEMA
Rockwell Center, Makati City ☎ Tel. No: 8981440-41 DOLBY DIGITAL SURROUND-EX

MOULIN ROUGE - P 13 11:50, 2:20, 4:50, 7:20, 9:50	A KNIGHT'S TALE - P 13 11:10, 1:50, 4:30, 7:10, 9:50	ARTIFICIAL INTELLIGENCE - P 13 1:10, 4:00, 6:50, 9:40
SCARY MOVIE 2 - R 18 11:50, 1:50, 3:50, 5:50, 7:50, 9:50	SHREK - GP 11:30, 1:30, 3:30, 5:30, 7:30, 9:30	ENEMY AT THE GATES - R 18 11:20, 2:00, 4:40, 7:20, 10:00

Matinee: P80, Mon.-Fri, 11:10 am to 4:45 pm Screenings, Free Seating.



OPENS SEPTEMBER 19!
MTRCB RATING R-18 Strictly for ADULTS No one below 18 yrs. may be admited.
Lead us into temptation
antonio BANDERAS angelina JOLIE
ORIGINAL SIN
DISTRIBUTED BY TWENTIENTH CENTURY FOX THRU WARNER BROS.



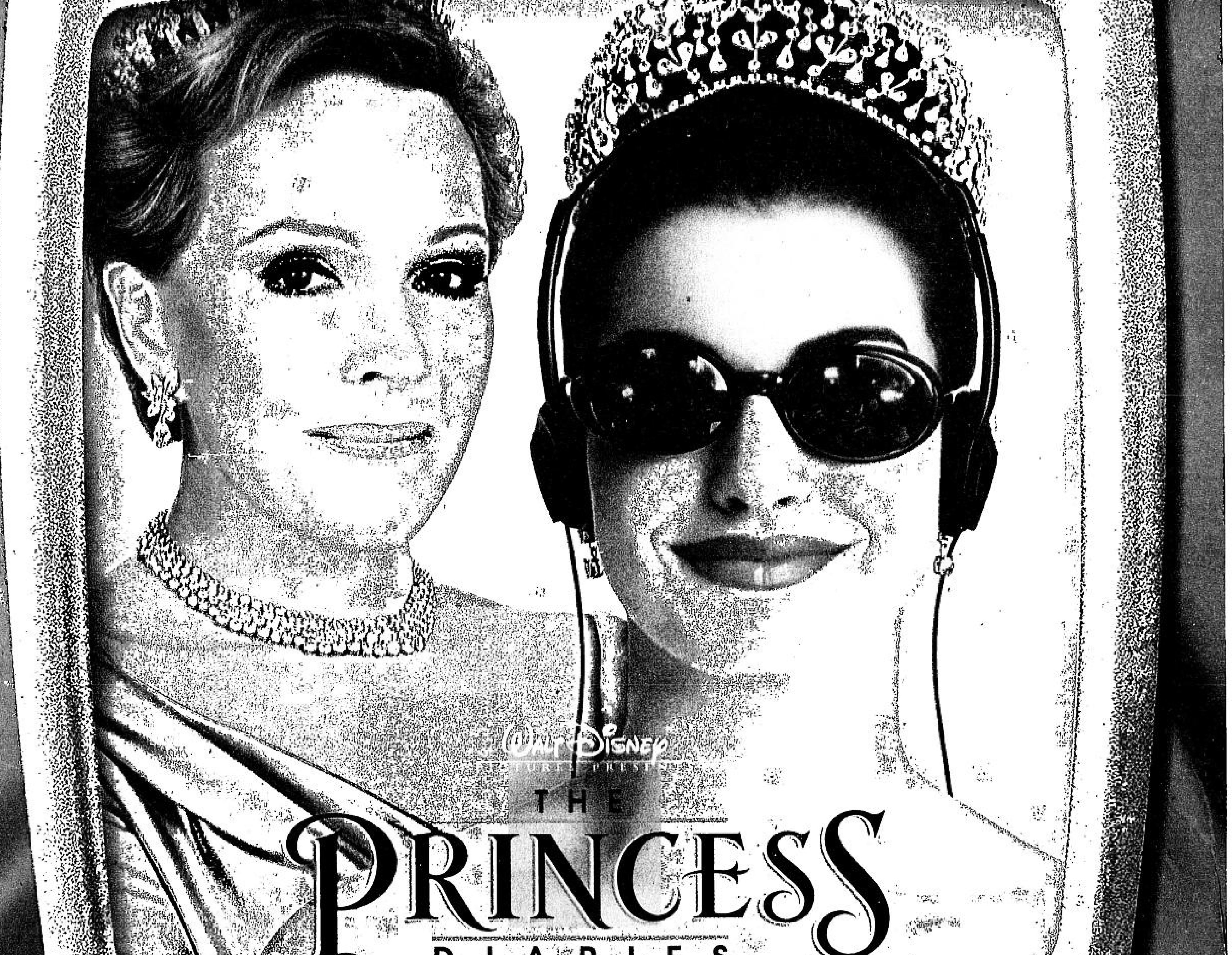
MTRCB RATING R RESTRICTED Strictly for ADULTS. No one below 18 yrs. may be admitted.
A Powerhouse Cast!
JUDE LAW RACHEL WEISZ
ED HARRIS JOSEPH FIENNES
ONE MAN CAN WIN THE WAR.
ENEMY AT THE GATES
united international pictures VIVA INTERNATIONAL PICTURES
NOW SHOWING

He Will Rock You!
3RD 'ACTION + COMEDY + ROMANCE' DAY!
MTRCB RATING PG-13 Children below 13 yrs. old will only be allowed if accompanied by a parent or adult
"TWO THUMBS UP!"
EBERT & ROEPER AND THE MOVIES
"'A Knight's Tale' kicks off the summer season in HIGH STYLE! A blend of 'Gladiator' and 'Shakespeare in Love'..."
ANDREW JOHNSTON US WEEKLY
Featuring music from Robbie Williams + Queen Third Eye Blind, David Bowie WAR & Eric Clapton
HEATH LEDGER
A KNIGHT'S TALE
aknightstale.com
"WE ARE THE CHAMPIONS"
Distributed by COLUMBIA PICTURES

From The Director Of "Pretty Woman" And "Runaway Bride"

Meet The Newest Member Of The Ruling Class.

THE
SMART Cinema Club
invites you to watch



Buena Vista International

©2001 Disney Enterprises, Inc.

OPENS IN CINEMAS SEPTEMBER 19.

www.princessdiaries.com

MTRCB Rating: GP

Join the Smart Cinema Club now and discover how much of a prince or princess you are!
You also get access to exclusive movie logos, picture messages, group graphics, and screen savers!

Official Princess Diaries logos

CROWN1
(Operator Logo/Group Graphic)

CROWNSLOGAN
(Picture Message/Screen Saver)

CROWNTITLE1
(Operator Logo/Group Graphic)

DIARYTITLE6
(Picture Message/Screen Saver)

TITLE
(Picture Message/Screen Saver)

Show some class with the official Princess Diaries graphics. All these are available only to Smart Cinema Club members, so join now by keying in **JOIN CINEMA**. To invite friends to join, key in **INVITE** <your friends' numbers>. You can invite up to three friends at one time. If you need more information on different keywords, key in **HELP** <command>. Send all commands to 239.

To Get Princess Diaries...	Key in...
Logo List of Keywords	LOGO PD and send to 239
Logos*	LOGO <keyword> and send to 229
Group Graphics Keywords	GROUP PD and send to 239
Group Graphics*	GROUP <keyword> and send to 239
Picture Messages List of Keywords	PIC PD and send to 239

To Get Princess Diaries...	Key in...
Picture Messages	PIC <keyword> and send to 239
Screen Savers List of Keywords	SAVER PD and send to 239
Screen Savers**	SAVER <keyword> and send to 239
To take the Personality Test	PLAY <PD/PD2/PD3/PD4> and send to 239
To invite a friend to take the test	SHARE <your friend's #> and send to 239

All text messages sent are P2.50 each.

*Available on selected Nokia handsets only **Available on Nokia 3310, 3330, and 8250

Promo Mechanics:

1. From Sept 14-20, 2001, all Smart Cinema Club members who download a logo, picture message, group graphic, or screen saver shall get one computer-generated point each. The top fifty cinema club members with the highest points collected will win two free regular screening movie passes each for The Princess Diaries at SM cinemas (GMA only). To know the number of points accumulated, key in DPOINTS and send to 239.
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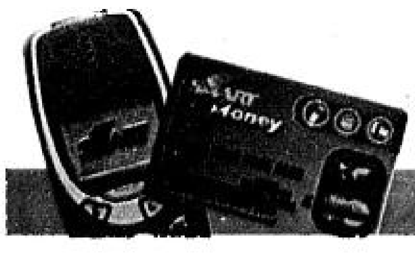

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BUSINESS
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Financial markets show recovery signs

TRAUMATIZED financial markets around the world showed signs of steadying yesterday, helped by a huge fund injection by world central banks in response to the vicious attack on US power centers.

Asian currencies were likewise gradually recovering from shock yesterday following the terror attacks, but most investors harbored lingering concerns over settlement risks.

But deep uncertainty as well as horror at the human cost ensured trade remained very light and stock markets were still floundering for direction without New York's lead.

The Federal Reserve's injection of more than $38 billion to reassure panicky markets came in addition to the $80 billion in liquidity pumped into the financial system by the European Central Bank, the Swiss National Bank and the Bank of Japan.

"I think people are going to say 'stock market crashes are the last thing the US needs, let's hold the line, let's show our support for the government, and bugger the terrorists'," said Andrew Sekely at Intersuisse Ltd.

The government moves helped the dollar to halve its losses from Tuesday, when investor confidence crumbled and panic set in.

By late morning in Tokyo, the dollar was steady at 119.47 yen from 119.49 in late New York and up over a yen from a post-attack low of 118.50 yen.

Tokyo stocks drifted uncertainly, ending the morning up a bit after being hammered 6-percent lower the previous day on fears the attacks could worsen Japan's already grim economic condition.

The benchmark Nikkei average was up 0.12 percent or 11.50 points at 9,621.60, after slipping below the 9,500 level for the first time since December 1983.

"The attacks will chill US consumption, which is obviously a big negative for Japan, and investors are very nervous about how US stocks will react," said Tetsuya Ishijima, chief strategist at Okasan Securities.

Oil and gold markets remained subdued as initial panic buying subsided.

Aside from uncertainty over the impact on the US financial system and Washington's expected military response, normally ruthless traders cited a reluctance to speculate so soon after the tragedy.

"Obviously, there are major worries about settlement risk, but very few are willing to ditch their morals and speculate at a time like this," a forex dealer at a Japanese bank said.

"The market is much calmer. But the feeling is that we are still dealing with the unknown. We will talk to other interbank players in the market later to see what the consensus is on trading," said a dealer at a European bank.

The US dollar found its feet against key currencies after the world's major central banks moved to soothe the financial markets after the attacks.

Dealers said trade could go back to normal after US financial markets fully reopen. The US bond market opens today but the stock market remains shut at least until Friday.

FINANCIAL/ B5

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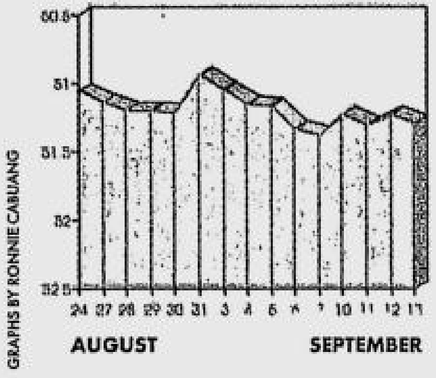


GRAPHS BY RONNIE CABUANG

Peso-Dollar Rate

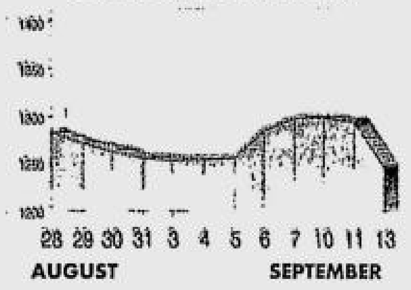
₱51.28 = $1
As of 5 p.m., Sept. 13, 2001

¥119.12 = $1
As of 5 p.m., Sept. 13, 2001

GOLD:$278.75
per ounce Hong Kong, Sept. 13, 2001

STOCK MARKET

PSE Composite Index



(See stock market report on Page B6)

Trading volume at 7-yr low

STOCKS eked out minor gains yesterday but the market posted its lowest turnover in at least seven years as caution prevailed following the devastating air attacks in New York and Washington.

The main index bobbed in a tight range of only about 10 points during the session before ending a shade higher, supported by slight gains in PLDT.

Analysts said players supported PLDT's decision to postpone a planned $250-million notes offer because of the dislocations in financial markets following the air attacks.

The Philippine composite index closed at 1,243.76 points, up 2.37 points or 0.19 percent after touching a fresh 35-month low of 1,237.40 points in intra-day trade.

Turnover amounted to P183.94 million, the lowest value of trades recorded in the seven-year history of the unified Philippine Stock Exchange.

Losers outnumbered gainers, 35 to 18, with 42 issues unchanged. *Reuters*

RP debt bids ease

BID rates for Philippine government paper eased in the secondary market yesterday despite the central bank keeping overnight rates unchanged as traders said it was likely to loosen policy soon.

They added, however, that investor interest remained muted and players cautious in the wake of the terror attacks on the United States.

On Wednesday, Bangko Sentral Governor Rafael Buenaventura said the bank stood ready to trim interest rates and provide liquidity to the banking system.

At yesterday's policy meeting, however, the bank decided to keep rates at present levels. *(See story on page B2.)*

"We are starting to see a bit of bullishness coming back in with prospects for cuts in interest rates around the world as a result of the events in the US," a foreign commercial bank trader said.

He added bids were down by as much as 25 basis points on some tenors.

Another trader with a local bank said activity remained extremely thin, with players reluctant to take fresh positions until the global financial picture becomes clearer.

Best bids for 91-day T-bills reached 9.9 percent; for 182-day 12.0; for 364-day 13.0; for two-year T-bonds 14.125; for five-year 15.125; for seven-year 15.5; and for 10-year 15.7. *Reuters*

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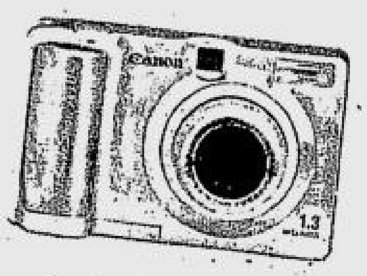

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Bangko Sentral keeps interest rates unchanged

By Clarissa S. Batino

THE POLICY-MAKING Monetary Board of the Bangko Sentral ng Pilipinas yesterday decided to remain cautious and kept overnight rates steady following uncertainties caused by the terror attacks on the United States.

BSP Deputy Governor Alberto Reyes said local monetary authorities wanted to have a clearer picture of the possible repercussions on the global markets of Tuesday's attacks that brought down the twin towers of the World Trade Center and damaged part of the Pentagon.

"The board noted that, in an uncertain period, the better posture should be one of caution. Thus, policy rates as well as banks' reserve requirement were kept unchanged," the central bank official said.

The BSP's overnight rates were kept at 9 percent for borrowing and 11.25 percent for lending while the commercial banks' reserve requirement on deposits and deposit substitutes was steady at 20 percent.

Reyes pointed out that the board had considered a possible threat to inflation of what appears to be a sustained increase in world oil prices, partly because of the US tragedy and the approaching winter season.

While the board had welcomed a better-than-expected economic growth in the second quarter of 3.5 percent and a lower inflation rate of 6.3 percent for August, Reyes said the BSP's economic research team still needed to evaluate if the decline in inflation could be sustainable.

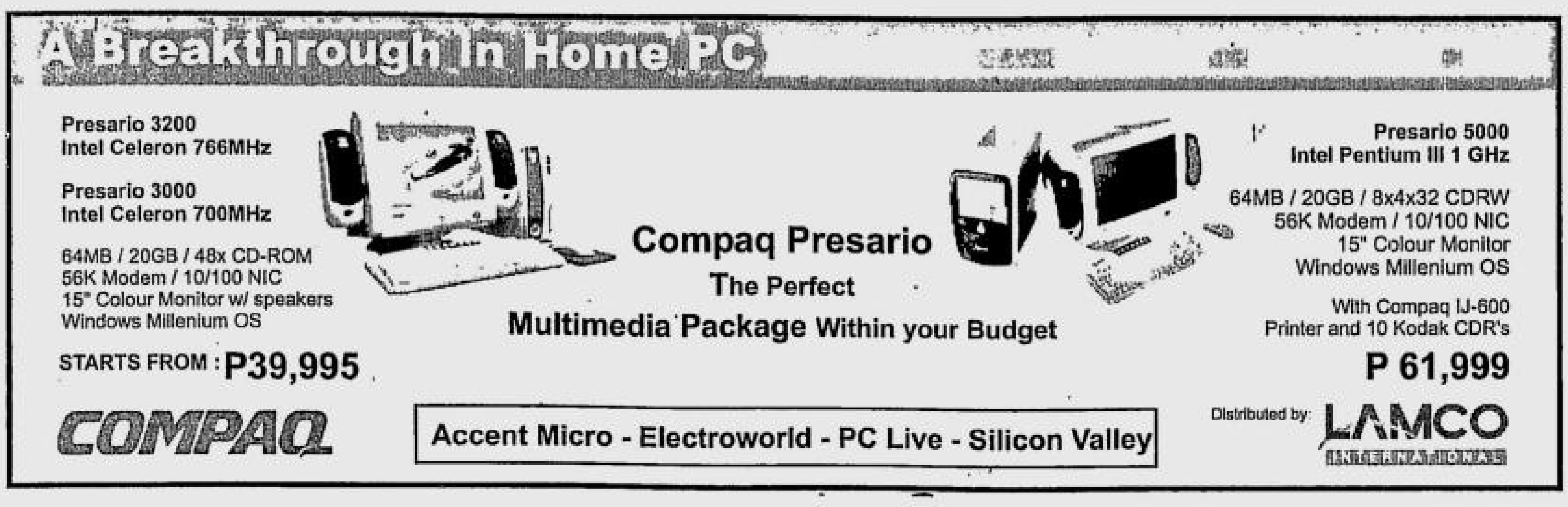
"The BSP will also monitor closely the US Fed actions on a possible package to restore quickly business and consumer confidence," Reyes said.

Even before the bombings in New York and Washington, US analysts have been anticipating a 25- to 50-basis point cut in US interest rates when the Federal Reserve meets anew in the first week of October.

An urgent need to resuscitate confidence in the United States may prompt the Federal Reserve to be more aggressive in relaxing its policy stance, a local banking analyst said.

Reyes noted that a marked slowdown in the growth of domestic liquidity to 11.9 percent in July from a 13-percent year-on-year increase the previous month could improve the chances of a cut in either the overnight rates or the bank reserve requirement in the coming weeks.

Reyes said the decline in domestic liquidity would give the Monetary Board greater flexibility to cut the bank reserve requirement from 20 percent.



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ADB says Asia still on target for 2015 goals

ASIA'S strong underlying growth rates, easing poverty levels and slower population growth over the past decade augur well for meeting development goals set for 2015, the Asian Development Bank said in a report released yesterday.

The goals include halving the incidence of extreme poverty, reducing infant and child mortality by two thirds and attaining 100 percent primary school enrolment.

"Overall, Asia is poised to achieve the targets of the international development goals by 2015," ADB vice president Myoung-Ho Shin said.

In its annual statistics report for Asia and the Pacific, launched in Singapore, the ADB said that with the exception of 1998 during the Asian crisis, the region's GDP grew at more than 6 percent a year in the 1990s, the highest rate in the world.

That far outstripped the growth of other developing regions, with Latin America growing at an average 3.4 percent and sub-Saharan Africa at 2.4 percent.

Most countries in Asia/Pacific shared in the rising GDP during the decade, with the exception of Central Asia, which posted negative growth as nations there shifted from central planning to market economies, the report said.

Slowing population

Population pressures eased, with the growth rate for Asia now only 1.45 percent a year, led by the success of China's policies in lowering fertility, the report said.

India, the second most populous country in the world, saw its population growth rate slow to 1.7 percent a year, from an average of 2.1 percent in the previous decade.

The ADB said the slowing population growth trend was due in part to "rising levels of education, increased female labor participation and greater access to and use of contraception."

Poverty also showed a declining trend with the rate falling from around 29 percent in the 1980s to about 24 percent in the 1990s—some 600 million people—the ADB said.

While the ADB said these trends were encouraging, it also highlighted others that were causes for concern.

These included a widening disparity between the economic performances of South and Central Asia against the other faster-growing countries in the region.

It also said rapid urbanization was putting an increasing strain on infrastructure, while a decline in the region's labor force and an aging population raised concerns about the provision of health care, pensions and other social safety nets.

Export's a key

The report noted that the best-performing economies in the region had sound macro-economic policies and export-led strategies, and continued to attract foreign direct investment.

These include China, Hong Kong, Taiwan, South Korea and Singapore as well as Malaysia, Indonesia, the Philippines and Thailand in Southeast Asia.

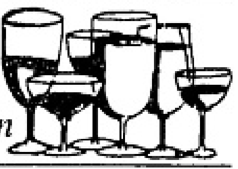
Conversely, countries that had not taken the export-led growth path, principally those in South Asia, have recorded lower GDP increases, limited progress in poverty reduction and only modest improvements in living standards over the past decade.

The ADB noted that with a growing middle class and emergence of consumerism, as well as high savings rates, the region's markets promised significant expansion, while export-led economies would continue to be attractive to foreign investors.

The main risk to that scenario was the US and global economic slowdown being longer than expected, as that would delay reductions in poverty and improvement of social conditions.

Reuters

Airport dirt



COCKTALES

By Victor C. Agustin

HOW would you feel if your contractor is gouging you with fake billings and spurious vouchers?

But what if the contractor turns out to be Gloria Macapagal-Arroyo's personal choice as transportation and communications secretary?

One of the crucial pieces of evidence in the plunder complaint now with the Ombudsman against Transportation Secretary Pantaleon Alvarez is an internal memorandum written by the German project manager for the proposed new terminal of the Ninoy Aquino International Airport.

"After having compared Wintrack's information about the submitted volume of the uncovered subterranean structures with Takenaka's estimated volumes, it was found that Wintrack's volumes exceeded those given by Takenaka by more than five times (!)," wrote an incredulous Karl May of PAGS Terminals, the joint venture between PAGS Holdings and Frankfurt Airport Authority that is building Naia Terminal 3.

May's memo, dated Sept. 30, 2000, was addressed to Jefferson "Jeffrey" Cheng, the president of the joint venture company.

Cheng and his other foreign partner, Japanese contractor Takenaka, hired Wintrack to excavate the proposed terminal site inside the Villamor air base. Formed with other partners by Alvarez, a former Naia chief operating officer who later became a congressman, Wintrack had the incredible luck to be appointed sub-contractor to the flagship project only a month after Wintrack started commercial operations in May 2000.

At the time Wintrack won the airport contract, Alvarez was also vice chair of the House transportation committee that held hearings on the validity of the Terminal 3 contract.

(Alvarez says that he and his wife had already divested themselves of their 30-percent shareholdings in Wintrack when he joined the Macapagal-Arroyo Cabinet. The DOTC secretary's name does not appear in the shareholders' list on file with the Securities and Exchange Commission. Nor does he appear to have either been a director or officer of the construction company.)

Going back to the memo, May, the project manager, said that "immediately after finding out this very big discrepancy (in excavation claims submitted by Wintrack) we conducted our own survey and prepared a comparison list," which he attached to his memo to Cheng.

Still, despite the eye-popping differences, the German project manager said he was including the "overestimated volumes" in the official

COCKTALES/ B4

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LAUNDERING LAW DELAY

Local banks list possible sanctions

By Clarissa S. Batino

THE BANKERS Association of the Philippines yesterday said the powerful Group of Seven might impose additional sanctions on the Philippines—including a reduction in grants, a rigid access to credit, a more stringent policy in the issuance of visas, and negative investment advisories—following the failure of the Philippines to pass an anti-money laundering law this month.

In a position paper, the 45-member BAP said it was anticipating a more stringent list of sanctions to be slapped against the Philippines with the expected failure of the country to legislate an anti-laundering law by Sept. 30.

The BAP has outlined four non-trade sanctions and another four trade-related punishments that might be applied on the Philippines "in varying degrees of severity" if the country would be retained in the list of non-cooperative nations when it comes to money laundering.

The list is being fi-

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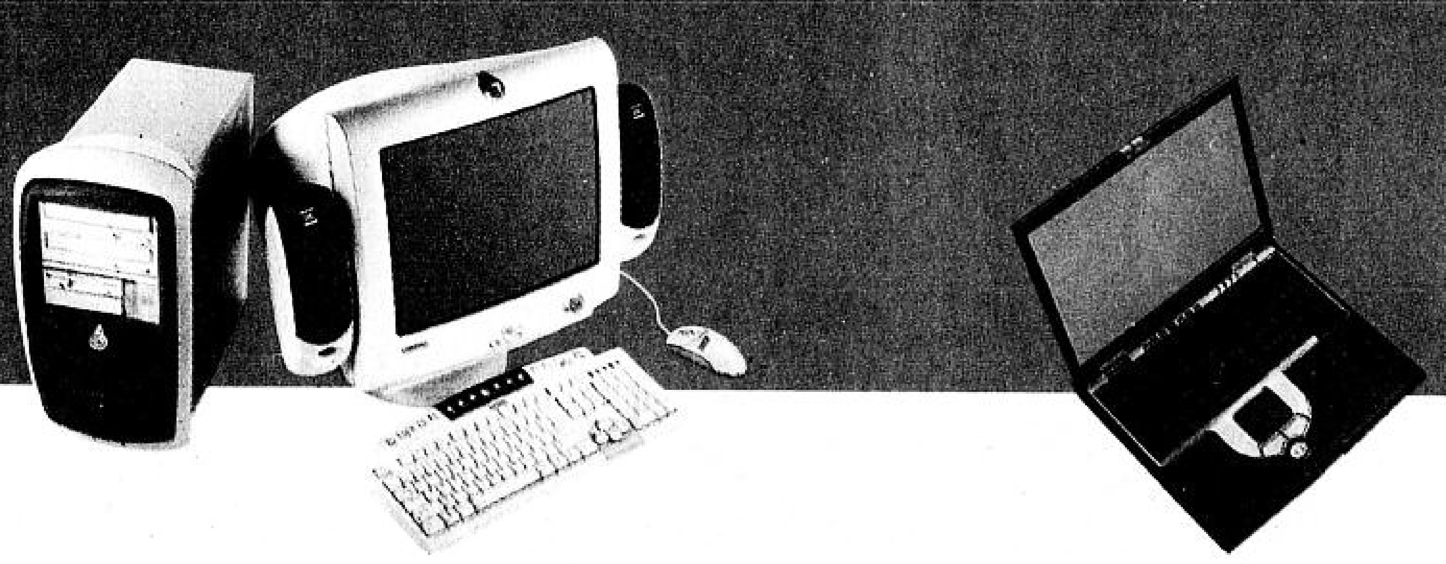

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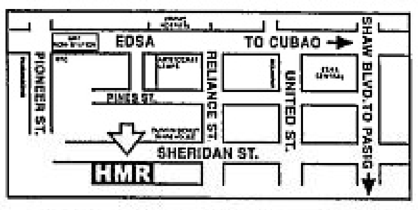


Malaysian firm pushes lease deal on National Steel

By Gil C. Cabacungan Jr.

HOTTICK Investment Ltd., a Hong Kong-based firm owned by Renong Bhd. of Malaysia, has withdrawn from the evaluation committee overseeing the bidding for a new investor, which will take over the re-opening of National Steel Corp. on a leasehold basis.

Hottick has decided to go back to its lease agreement with Allengoal instead of finding an investor that is mutually acceptable to both Malaysian investors and local creditor banks.

The evaluation committee was formed by the government a few months ago to break the standoff between Hottick-Renong and NSC's creditor-banks. The creditors had sought the Securities and Exchange Commission's backing to go ahead with the liquidation of NSC's assets but Hottick-Renong insisted on its lease agreement with Allengoal. The dispute is currently the subject of a pending case with the SEC.

In a letter to Trade Secretary Manuel "Mar" Roxas II, chair of the NSC evaluation committee, Hottick chair Datuk Abdul Rashid Abdul Manaff said:"We are constrained to advise you that we are no longer able to continue participating in the activities of the committee, which involves receiving, evaluating and selecting proposals for the interim sale of NSC's Iligan plant." Hottick's representatives to the eight-member committee are NSC management committee head Ibrahim Bidn and Ermilando Napa.

Hottick-Renong had directed Bidn to "immediately revisit the lease agreement forged by NSC with Allengoal with the end view of implementing the agreement as soon as possible and under improved terms and conditions in favor of NSC."

Allengoal offered to pay NSC P17.85 million a month for the use of NSC's facilities and put up a P25-million deposit in an escrow account for the upkeep of the plant and equipment. On top of the cash deposit, a performance bond amounting to P75 million will be provided by Allengoal, which could be tapped if more funds are needed by NSC.

The committee had been tasked to choose the best offer from potential investors for the immediate re-opening of NSC whose Iligan factory has been closed for the last 18 months.

The committee was willing to consider new investors even on a tolling arrangement just to ensure that NSC's plant would be rekindled soon before its assets wither due to long inactivity.

This was seen as a major breakthrough as the government had earlier succeeded in breaking the impasse between the Malaysians and the bank consortium by forcing them to submit to government arbitration. In case the Malaysian government and local creditor-banks fail to reach a common ground on the re-opening of NSC, the government would step in and make the final decision. The two parties were divided on how to carry out the transition period before the long-term investor comes in.

Earlier, Malaysia's debt rehabilitation agency Pengurusan Danaharta Nasional Bhd. has reportedly agreed to the joint sale of its 80-percent stake in NSC even if it would mean a big loss on its investments.

Cocktales

(From page B3)

claims to be submitted by the foreign consortium to government engineers and inspectors.

"As discussed with yourself . . . , we have followed your instruction to include Wintrack's overestimated volumes into the submitted documents to MIAA (Manila International Airport Authority) in order to have some space for further negotiations," May wrote.

In other words, the May memo suggests that Wintrack was used by Cheng, with the tacit approval of his German partners, as a conduit for gouging the government.

These "overestimated volumes" were all subsequently approved by MIAA project engineers up to the level of MIAA General Manager Antonio Gana. According to the plunder complaint, Wintrack received from the German-Cheng consortium an overpayment of more than P76 million through padded billings in just over three months of work.

These alleged overpayments, in turn, will be deducted by the German-Cheng consortium from the annual guaranteed payments due the government under the concession agreement when their consortium starts operating the new airport terminal in 2003.

Guess who will eventually pay for all these padded costs?

RP's hope

THE COMMON belief that Filipino students are lagging behind in mathematics has somewhat been proven wrong when a delegation of 22 grade and high school students won in various categories in the recent "China Math Olympiad" held in Jinjiang.

What is all the more heartwarming is that the Pinoys competed not only against the Chinese wizards but also against the best from Hong Kong, Taiwan, and Macau.

The only Filipino girl in the competition, 10-year-old Chiara V. Lanuza, daughter of Castilaloy stockbroker Gerardo and Zonnette Lanuza, placed 3rd in the calculation category, individual level.

To prepare them for the competition, the Mathematics Trainers' Guild, a volunteer group of math teachers, put the Filipino students on "math camp" for 12 Saturdays, in addition to giving them large doses of plain, old TLC.

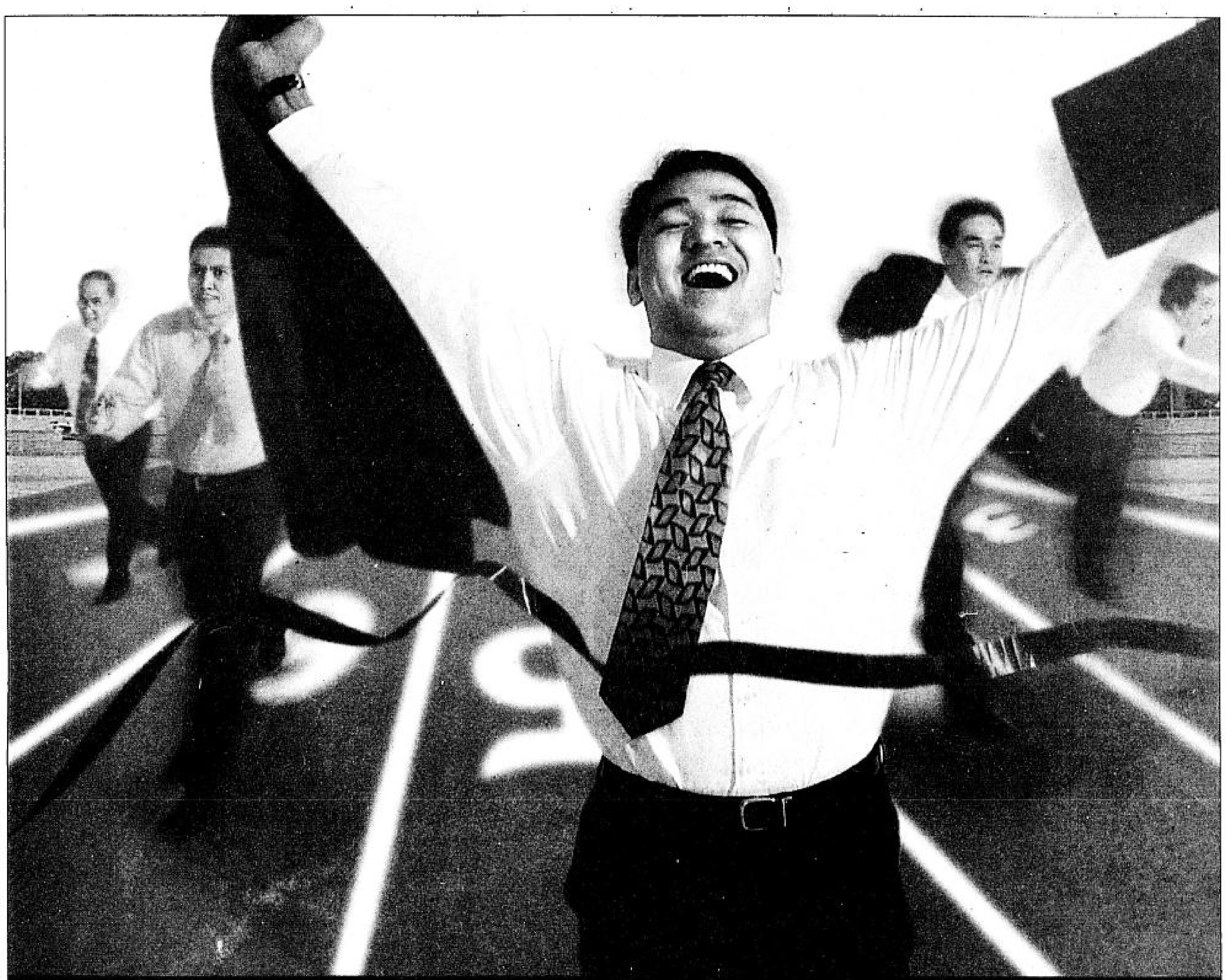
Heard through the grapevine

ONE of those killed by falling debris in New York was said to have been Sen. Panfilo Lacson.

His mangled body, beside a crushed ATM machine, was identified by way of a Citibank ATM card he was clutching.

This, of course, is another Erap joke making the rounds of text messages.

(Cocktales may be reached by e-mail at cocktales_pdi@yahoo.com or at cocktales_pdi@hotmail.com.)



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CEMENT ISSUE

Local manufacturers urged to lower prices

By Gil C. Cabacungan Jr.

CONSUMER groups yesterday claimed that cement manufacturers could retain their lion's share of the domestic market if they would keep their prices at P110 per 40-kilogram bag or at par with the landed cost of imports.

Confederation of Homeowners Association for Reforms in Governance and Environment (CHARGE) chair Jesus Arranza said members of Philippine Cement Manufacturers Corp. themselves hold the key to stopping the influx of imports in the country. "Cut prices to P110 per bag and importation will stop."

Philcemcor warned Wednesday that imports could easily take up more than half of the local market within the next 14 months following the imposition of a preliminary injunction barring the government from implementing the Safeguard Measures Act. Without the punitive duties and quotas, Philcemcor expect imports to swell from 22 percent at present to more than 50 percent by November next year.

CHARGE and the Consumers Union of the Philippines claimed that at P110 per bag, Philcemcor would be selling their goods at a mark-up of as much as 45 percent based on its members' production cost ranging from P60 to P80 per bag. Philcemcor sells its cement at P132 per bag ex-plant which the firms claimed covered value added tax, marketing cost, financial charges and margin.

Arranza said there was no reason Philcemcor could not sell at P110 per bag because it was able to export part of its output to Taiwan at P40 per bag "unless they want to get more profits." Arranza said the government should not ignore the inexplicable rise in cement prices despite the excess supply and weak demand in the market.

CHARGE and CUP have vigorously opposed Philcemcor's petition calling for a provisional 50-percent duty on cement imports for 200 days until the Tariff Commission has ruled on whether the industry was eligible for protection against import surge under the Safeguard Measures Act. The preliminary injunction, however, stopped the DTI from issuing its decision on the petition.

Arranza cited a study on the cement industry by the Philippine Institute of Development Studies that stated that collusion in the industry took place through informal agreement to set production quotas and to assign geographic markets among themselves.

Earlier, Philcemcor said the continued import surge would force local cement players to either close shop, scale down operations or merge their operations. It warned that the cement industry could end up being a minority player in a market dominated by imports.

Philcemcor said the Macapagal administration was duty-bound to seek the lifting of the Valenzuela regional trial court ruling because local industries would be sitting ducks in the deluge of cheap imports into the country.

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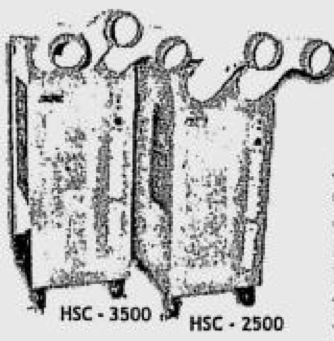

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Local banks . . .

(From page B3)

nalized by the Paris-based Financial Action Task Force, an anti-laundering watchdog formed by members of the Organization for Economic Cooperation and Development.

Money laundering is the "cleansing" of funds raised from illegal activities like drug-trafficking, kidnapping and racketeering. The Paris-based task force had given the Philippines along with Russia and Nauru until Sept. 30 to pass a law against money laundering.

"The US and other OECD countries may decide to limit the provision of grants to the Philippines, as well as in supporting Philippine requests for loans from international agencies such as the International Monetary Fund," the BAP warned.

Another scary prospect, it said, was that members of the Paris-based Task Force might issue warnings in their respective countries to exercise caution when investing in the Philippines as they might be unwittingly involved in money laundering and other illegal activities.

Included in the non-trade sanctions identified by the BAP was a possible delay in the issuance of visas to local travelers due to an increase in queries related to source of funds for travel, and reasons for traveling to the United States or any OECD country.

The BAP said deposit accounts maintained by Filipinos in the United States and other countries belonging to the FATF would be subjected to undue scrutiny while remittance of individuals to relatives and other parties in any OECD country would suffer from undue scrutiny.

"This could result in unnecessary delay in processing and final payment of the remittance to the beneficiary like credit card payments, payment for Internet orders or educational or hospital invoices," the bankers' group said.

The group added that the review of deposit accounts might be heightened after Sept. 30, which could lead to rigid questioning and, in extreme cases, closure of the account.

Financial . . .

(From page B1)

In the region, currencies are likely to remain range-bound.

The euro was calm at 90.57/62 cents and 108.36/46 yen from 90.62 and 108.43. Tokyo dealers said volumes were down to nearly a quarter of normal turnover.

In Hong Kong, the Hang Seng Index rose 1.12 percent to 9,599.93, following a nearly 9-percent plunge on Wednesday.

But markets that had closed on Wednesday suffered badly, forcing Thailand's finance minister to call on investors "not to panic" as Bangkok share dived nearly 10 percent.

Australian stocks clung to positive territory in early afternoon trade after rallying 1.7 percent in early trade as cautious optimism returned.

Helping to lift spirits, European stocks had moved higher in grim, volatile trade on Wednesday, but were well off pre-attack levels and had no lead from the all-important New York market.

The New York Stock Exchange was closed for a second straight trading day, the first time since the end of World War II in August 1945. Officials said full or partial equities trading will resume as early as Friday and no later than Monday.

One worry in Asia is that US mutual funds may redeem holdings in the region after New York reopens as nervous investors liquidate equity holdings.

Despite a calm opening yesterday, Tokyo forex dealers said there were still worries about settlement problems. Currency volumes in London—the world's biggest foreign exchange market—fell by at least 50 percent amid severe logistical problems.

Many operators restrained from trading actively following an advisory from the international financial market association, the Association Cambiste Internationale (ACI). It asked banks to refrain from unnecessary trading in the wake of the attacks.

Dealers said the market had been reassured by the Fed's move to boost its temporary reserves, and after Group of Seven world powers said they were ready to provide liquidity to ensure markets operate "in an orderly fashion."

Fears that world oil supplies could be disrupted also eased after Saudi Oil Minister Ali al-Naimi said on Wednesday the kingdom will cooperate with fellow Opec producers to cover any oil supply shortage following the attacks on the United States.

October Dubai, Asian benchmark crude, was quoted at $25.75-25.77, compared with $26.32-37 on Wednesday. London Brent crude oil futures slumped 3.6 percent to close at $28 per barrel on Wednesday after jumping $1.61 on Tuesday.

Gold bullion was quoted at $278.75/0.25, slightly down from the London close. The traditional safe haven in times of crisis saw volumes return to normal and was fixed at $279 in London, against $280 on Tuesday at an early close. ***INQUIRER wire reports***

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Music OKs restructuring plan

By Doris C. Dumlao

SEMICONDUCTOR firm Music Corp. has drawn up a group corporate restructuring plan to attract more foreign investors and pave the way for its listing on other exchanges abroad.

In a disclosure to the Philippine Stock Exchange yesterday, Music legal counsel Catherine Jennifer Gonzales said the company would incorporate in Bermuda a wholly owned unit that would become a special-purpose vehicle for transferring assets.

The new unit, in turn, would incorporate a new holding company also in Bermuda to be known as Music Holdings (MH), which would absorb the assets of the group.

MH will be the unit to be listed on other exchanges abroad as well as on the PSE, the disclosure said.

Gonzales said the group chose Bermuda as the new domicile for the holding company because it enjoyed a good reputation and strong international acceptability that would allow for greater investments and businesses.

She also said Bermuda had a more "tax-efficient system in place" and would support the corporation in its plan to "list in another market where its core businesses are more widely understood."

Aside from its core semiconductor business, the Music group has interests in information and communications technology through Music Telecom and Music.com. Cash-strapped Music.com is currently under liquidation.

The restructuring involves the "surrender by existing shareholders of their shares in Music Corp. to the special-purpose vehicle in exchange for MH shares, which at the time of surrender, shall have been approved for listing in one or more stock exchanges, including the PSE, subject to approval by the appropriate regulatory authorities," the disclosure said.

MH will offset all payables and receivables from the special-purpose vehicle and later on sell Music shares to a third party for cash.

"Upon completion of the group restructuring plan, each participating shareholder of the corporation shall cease to be a shareholder of the corporation and will own instead exactly the same percentage of MH as he presently owns of the corporation, assuming all shareholders participate in the plan," Gonzales said.

She said continued liquidity of the stock would be ensured through its listing on one or more stock exchanges aside from the PSE.

Music is currently raising $6 million to beef up the funds of its flagship unit Music Semiconductors Inc., which is involved in the design and marketing of specialty devices for the networking industry. The unit is in need of fresh funds to develop its newest microchip products.

Philippine Stock Exchange

(As of Thursday, Sept. 13, 2001)

STOCKS	OPEN	HIGH	LOW	CLOSE	VOLUME
BANKS & FINANCIAL SERVICES					
BANKS					
Bank of the Phil. Islands	59	59	58.5	58.5	311,000
China Banking Corp.	600	600	600	600	680
Equitable PCI Bank Inc.	30	30	29	29	11,700
Metropolitan Bank & Trust	208	209	205	209	9,170
Philippine National Bank	53	53	53	53	6,600
Phil. Savings Bank	29	29	29	29	2,000
Rizal Comm. Banking Corp.	22	22	22	22	1,000
Union Bank of the Phil.	22	22	21.75	22	5,300
FINANCIAL SERVICE					
Filipino Fund Inc.	0.32	0.32	0.32	0.32	10,000
First Metro Invest. Corp.	243	243	243	243	250
Manulife Financial Corp.	1200	1200	1170	1170	4,230
PCI Leasing & Fin. Inc.	0.7	0.7	0.7	0.7	30,000
Sun Life Financial Serv.	950	980	940	955	3,100
COMMERCIAL & INDUSTRIAL COMMUNICATION					
ABS-CBN Broadcasting Corp.	30	30	30	30	1,300
Globe Telecom Inc.	640	640	640	640	2,700
Island Info and Tech Inc.	0.031	0.031	0.031	0.031	1,500,000
Manila Bulletin Pub. Corp.	3	3	3	3	139,000
Phil. Long Dis Tel Co.	497.5	510	497.5	505	42,060
Philweb.Com Inc.	0.027	0.028	0.026	0.027	14,600,000
POWER & ENERGY					
Manila Electric Co. A	30	30	30	30	11,100
Manila Electric Co. B	43	43.5	43	43	357,800
Petron Corp.	1.62	1.64	1.62	1.64	821,000
Trans-Asia Oil and Energy	0.86	0.86	0.86	0.86	20,000
TRANSPORTATION SERVICES					
Int'l Container Term'l Sv	1.94	1.94	1.94	1.94	1,082,000
Keppel Phils. Marine Inc.	0.3	0.3	0.3	0.3	20,000
William, Gothong & Aboitiz	1.34	1.34	1.34	1.34	12,000
CONSTRUCTION & OTHER RELATED PRODUCTS					
Engineering Equip. Inc.	0.31	0.31	0.31	0.31	10,000
Republic Cement Corp.	1.46	1.5	1.46	1.5	250,000
Republic Glass Hldg. Corp.	1.02	1.3	1.02	1.3	50,000
Union Cement Corp.	1.14	1.16	1.14	1.16	34,000
FOOD, BEVERAGES & TOBACCO					
Alaska Milk Corp.	2.1	2.1	2.1	2.1	1,000
Cosmos Bottling Corp.	5.6	5.7	5.6	5.7	720,000
Jollibee Foods Corp.	12.75	12.75	12.75	12.75	62,100
La Tondeña Distillers Inc.	25	26	25	26	23,200
RFM Corp.	2.16	2.18	2.16	2.16	398,000
San Miguel Corp. A	39.5	40	39.5	40	45,900
San Miguel Corp. B	54	54	53.5	53.5	72,000
Universal Robina Corp.	4.3	4.3	4.3	4.3	25,000
HOLDING FIRMS					
Ayala Corp.	6.1	6.1	6.1	6.1	4,957,000
Alsons Cons. Res. Inc.	0.14	0.14	0.14	0.14	9,990,000
Aboitiz Equity Ventures	1.5	1.52	1.5	1.52	50,000
Ajo.Net Holdings Inc.	0.82	0.82	0.82	0.82	10,000
A. Soriano Corp.	0.44	0.45	0.44	0.45	160,000
Alcorn Gold Res. Corp.	0.008	0.008	0.008	0.008	252,000,000
Benpres Holdings Corp.	1.42	1.42	1.4	1.4	493,000
Crown Equities Inc.	0.14	0.14	0.14	0.14	230,000
Filinvest Dev. Corp.	0.83	0.83	0.8	0.81	220,000
First Phil Hldgs Corp.	28	28	28	28	64,600
Forum Pacific Inc.	0.22	0.22	0.2	0.2	210,000
Global Equities Inc.	0.11	0.11	0.11	0.11	140,000
Guoco Holdings (Phils.)	0.18	0.2	0.18	0.2	100,000
Ionics Inc.	9.9	9.9	9.9	9.9	15,000
J.G. Summit Holdings Inc.	1.74	1.74	1.74	1.74	150,000
Megaworld Corp.	0.65	0.68	0.65	0.68	940,000
Metro Pacific Corp.	0.31	0.31	0.31	0.31	290,000
Music Corp.	0.96	0.96	0.95	0.95	70,000
Tanduay Holdings Inc.	4.7	4.7	4.55	4.55	13,000
Uniwide Holdings Inc.	0.17	0.19	0.17	0.19	400,000
Wellex Industries Inc.	0.22	0.28	0.22	0.28	160,000
MANUFACTURING, DISTRIBUTION & TRADING					
Active Alliance Inc.	0.51	0.51	0.51	0.51	50,000
Euro-Med Lab. Phil. Inc.	4.8	4.8	4.8	4.8	10,000
Metro Alliance Holdings	0.35	0.35	0.3	0.35	180,000
Macondray Plastics Inc.	6.4	6.4	6.4	6.4	1,000
Pryce Corp.	0.17	0.17	0.17	0.17	80,000
Central Azucar Don Pedro	0.78	0.78	0.78	0.78	50,000
SPI Technologies Inc.	12	12	11.75	12	16,100
HOTEL, RECREATION & OTHER SERVICE					
Belle Corp.	0.41	0.42	0.41	0.42	1,260,000
Fairmont Holdings Inc.	0.48	0.49	0.48	0.49	950,000
Manila Jockey Club	18	18	18	18	900
BONDS, PREFERRED & WARRANTS					
ABS-CBN Hldgs. Corp. (Pdr)	30	30	30	30	5,200
Omico Corp. Warrant	0.002	0.002	0.002	0.002	10,000,000
Philweb.Com Inc.-Warrants	0.0095	0.0095	0.009	0.0095	28,000,000
PROPERTY					
Ayala Land Inc.	4.75	4.75	4.65	4.7	5,922,000
C & P Homes Inc.	0.19	0.19	0.19	0.19	100,000
Cyber Bay Corp.	0.29	0.29	0.28	0.29	1,740,000
Empire East Land Inc.	0.25	0.25	0.25	0.25	660,000
Filinvest Land Inc.	1.9	1.9	1.88	1.88	381,000
Phil Realty and Holdings	0.055	0.055	0.055	0.055	500,000
SM Development Corp.	0.75	0.75	0.72	0.72	30,000
SM Prime Holdings Inc.	6.1	6.2	6	6.1	4,702,000
Universal Rightfield Prop.	0.055	0.055	0.055	0.055	300,000
MINING					
Apex Mining Co. Inc. A	0.0048	0.0048	0.0048	0.0048	2,000,000
Apex Mining Co. Inc. B	0.0048	0.0048	0.0048	0.0048	2,000,000
Atlas Cons. Min & Dev't.	1.2	1.2	1.2	1.2	3,000
Itogon-Suyoc Mines A	0.032	0.032	0.032	0.032	2,000,000
Lepanto Cons. Mng. Co. B	0.17	0.17	0.17	0.17	1,250,000
Omico Corp.	0.0034	0.0034	0.0034	0.0034	12,000,000
Philex Mining Corp. A	0.38	0.38	0.38	0.38	100,000
OIL					
Imperial Res.	0.017	0.017	0.017	0.017	11,300,000
Interport Res.	0.0046	0.0048	0.0046	0.0048	15,000,000
Oriental Pet. & Min. A	0.0036	0.0036	0.0036	0.0036	1,000,000
Oriental Pet. & Min. B	0.0036	0.0036	0.0036	0.0036	15,000,000
Pacifica	0.015	0.015	0.014	0.014	11,000,000
South China Resources Inc.	0.25	0.25	0.25	0.25	20,000

	SHARES	VALUE (P)
Banks & Fin Svc	395,030	29,422,960.00
Comm'l & Ind'l	331,565,960	95,536,865.00
PRO	14,335,000	57,977,930.00
Mining	19,353,000	378,100.00
OIL	53,320,000	480,700.00
GRAND TOTALS:	418,988,990	183,856,555.00

	AVERAGES	
Banks & Fin Svc	516.00	DOWN 2.72
Comm'l & Ind'l	1,738.90	UP 1.41
PRO	489.56	UP 3.38
Mining	1,215.98	DOWN 12.83
OIL	1.44	UNCH 0.00
All Shares Index	676.10	DOWN 17.64
Composite	1,243.76	UP 2.37

NO. OF ADVANCES: 18; NO. OF DECLINES: 35; NO. OF UNCHANGED: 42; NO. OF TRADED ISSUES: 95; NO. OF TRADES: 1,198

DISCLOSURES

CONCRETE Aggregates Corp. disclosed that it would close its crushing plant operations in San Fabian, Pangasinan effective October 13, 2001.

* * *

NEGROS Navigation Co. Inc. clarified that no definitive agreements have been reached on the reported disposal of its non-core business subsidiaries.

* * *

LMG Chemicals Corp. will hold its annual stockholders' meeting on September 28, 10 a.m. at the 7/F boardroom of Chemphil Building, Makati City. Stockholders of record as of September 23 are entitled to notice of and to vote at the meeting.

* * *

THE RECORD date for **Manila Jockey Club Inc.'s** preemptive rights offering has been set on October 3, 2001. Proceeds of the offering, estimated at P48.19 million, shall be used as partial settlement of the company's P260 million outstanding loans.

* * *

FIL-Estate Land Inc. will hold its annual stockholders' meeting on October 17 with record date on September 27.

* * *

UNIVERSAL Rightfield Property Holdings Inc. will hold its annual stockholders' meeting on November 12, 2:30 p.m. at the Podium Deck Function Room, Pioneer Highlands, Mandaluyong City. Stockholders of record as of September 20 are entitled to notice of and to vote at the meeting.

* * *

PHILIPPINE Long Distance Telephone Co. postponed its $250 million offering of 10-year notes due to the effects in the financial market brought by recent terrorist attacks in the United States. *Compiled by Maricar D. Tolosa, PDI Research*

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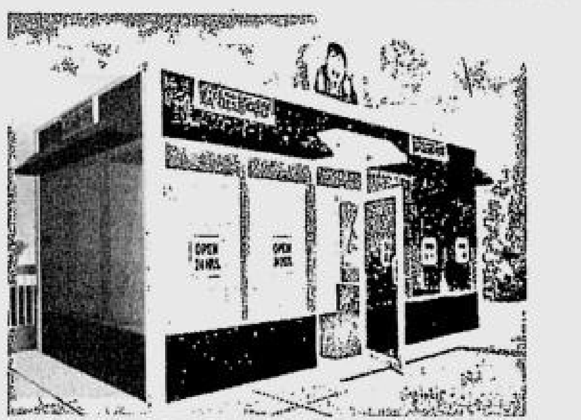

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Ang mga katangi-tanging kooperatibang nagwagi sa GAWAD PITAK 2001
KATEGORYANG AGRI-BASED
Unang Gantimpala — *Claveria Agri-Based Multi-Purpose Cooperative*, Claveria, Cagayan
Pangalawang Gantimpala — *Sts. Peter & Paul Multi-Purpose Cooperative*, Hinunangan, Southern Leyte
Pangatlong Gantimpala — *Diffun Credit & Development Cooperative*, Diffun, Quirino
Pang-apat na Gantimpala — *Tayabas Community Multi-Purpose Cooperative*, Tayabas, Quezon
Panglimang Gantimpala — *Lagawe Multi-Purpose Cooperative*, Lagawe, Ifugao
KATEGORYANG NON-AGRI-BASED
Unang Gantimpala — *Cebu CFI Community Cooperative*, Cebu City
Pangalawang Gantimpala — *Parish of the Holy Cross Credit Cooperative*, Gen. T. de Leon, Valenzuela City
Pangatlong Gantimpala — *Nueva Vizcaya Alay-Kapwa Multi-Purpose Cooperative*, Solano, Nueva Vizcaya
Pang-apat na Gantimpala — *Barangka Credit Cooperative*, Barangka, Marikina City
Panglimang Gantimpala — *Five Star Savings & Credit Development Cooperative*, Gamu, Isabela
KATEGORYANG KO-OP RURAL BANK
Unang Gantimpala — *Cooperative Bank of Misamis Oriental*, Cagayan de Oro City
Pangalawang Gantimpala — *First Isabela Cooperative Bank*, Cauayan, Isabela
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GSIS: Who wants to be a millionaire?

LABOR MANAGEMENT FORUM

Josephus B. Jimenez

"MORALLY indefensible."

Earlier this week, this paper reported that the Commission on Audit declared as illegal GSIS' fantastic retirement plan, which allowed favored officials and employees the best of both worlds—the best features of the five-year lump sum payments under RA 1616 and the monthly pension based on the creditable length of service computed at 150 percent of monthly salary under RA 660. A group of favored retirees became millionaires at the expense of GSIS.

In the face of the many GSIS members' miseries because of housing loans that are foreclosed at the slightest cause, or claims for death, disability and sickness benefits that are delayed or denied for the flimsiest reasons, the millions of pesos in retirement windfall are utterly unforgivable.

A COA memorandum and legal opinion was reported by this paper earlier this week to have declared that: "They are thus acting like the stepsisters of Cinderella who took the latter's wealth and, at the same time, made her life miserable." To our mind, the analogy is far from off tangent. Instead of bringing cheers, hopes and good tidings to its members, GSIS is now a supplier of miseries and disillusions.

Stepsisters of the workers

Like SSS, GSIS exasperates us. The COA opinion stated: "While the fund of GSIS comes from the contributions of lowly employees like teachers, utility workers and clerks, they who were entrusted with these contributions had arrogated to themselves fantastic salaries taken from such contributions." While workers' claims are denied left and right, the trustees of their retirement funds are living the life of the rich and the famous.

The COA added: "And as if this is not enough, they allowed for themselves retirement benefits in incredible amounts such that they can retire with gratuity pay of P13.5 million and monthly pension of P93,000." Do they have even a semblance of *hiya* or *delicadeza*? How can they face the millions of GSIS members after having committed such a callous act of betrayal?

Too expensive loyalty

The COA considered as "morally indefensible" the GSIS Employees Loyalty Incentive Plan, allegedly approved by the GSIS board earlier this year. It violates the so-called Teves Law that explicitly prohibits the putting up of other retirement schemes on top of those allowable by

GSIS/ B8

Court issues injunction vs Cosmos sale to SMC

By Elena R. Torrijos

THE QUEZON City Regional Trial Court yesterday issued a preliminary injunction preventing the sale of soft drink maker Cosmos Bottling Corp., a subsidiary of the Concepcion family's RFM Corp., to San Miguel Corp.

The court order may seem to be a victory for Iloilo Rep. Augusto Syjuco Jr., who earlier obtained a temporary re-z straining order that expired yesterday, but RFM Corp. is unfazed by this development.

In a statement issued yesterday, RFM lawyer Francis Lim of the Accra Law Office said the injunction was preliminary measure and did not represent a decision on the merits of the complaint filed by Syjuco.

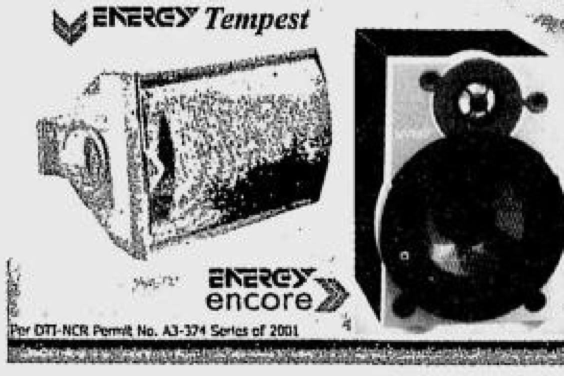
"We believe in the strength of our case and we are prepared to take the appropriate legal action to see this through," Lim said.

Food and beverage conglomerate SMC said thatdiscussions with RFM Corp. for the purchase of RFM's shares in Cosmos will proceed despite the hurdles posed by the case filed by Syjuco.

Contacted for comment on the issuance of the injunction, SMC vice chair Ramon S. Ang said "RFM has given us assurance that they will exhaust all legal means to allow the deal to be completed."

Syjuco is seeking to stop the sale of Cosmos to San Miguel in a bid to re

COURT/ B8



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CURRENCIES

Sept 13, 2001

Country	Unit	Euro Equivalent	Foreign currency in US$	Foreign currency in Peso
United States	Dollar	1.102293	1.000000	51.1800
Japan	Yen	0.009227	0.008371	0.4284
United Kingdom	Pound	1.618386	1.468200	75.1425
Hong Kong	Dollar	0.141353	0.128235	6.5631
Switzerland	Franc	0.664472	0.602809	30.8518
Canada	Dollar	0.706462	0.640902	32.8014
Singapore	Dollar	0.634049	0.575209	29.4392
Australia	Dollar	0.568779	0.515996	26.4087
Bahrain	Dinar	2.924009	2.652661	135.7632
Saudi Arabia	Rial	0.293913	0.266638	13.6465
Brunei	Dollar	0.628194	0.569898	29.1674
Indonesia	Rupiah	0.000122	0.000111	0.0057
Thailand	Baht	0.024838	0.022533	1.1532
UAE	Dirham	0.300188	0.272331	13.9379
Korea	Won	0.000859	0.000779	0.0399
Euro	Euro	1.000000	0.907200	46.4305
Germany	Mark	0.511292	0.463844	23.7395
France	Franc	0.152450	0.138302	7.0783
Netherlands	Guilder	0.453780	0.411669	21.0692
Austria	Schilling	0.072673	0.065929	3.3742
Belgium	Franc	0.024789	0.022489	1.1510
Italy	Lire	0.000517	0.000469	0.0240
Finland	Markka	0.168188	0.152580	7.8090
Portugal	Escudo	0.004988	0.004525	0.2316
Spain	Peseta	0.006010	0.005452	0.2790
Luxemburg	Franc	0.024789	0.022489	1.1510
Ireland	Punt	1.269738	1.151906	58.9545

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Fri, Sept 14, at 12:00 noon & 7:00 pm
Sat, Sept 15 at 12:00 noon & 7:00 pm
Sunday, Sept 16 at 12:00 noon
Location: Hyatt Regency, 2702 Roxas Blvd. Pasay City P.O. Box 2462 Manila, Luzon Island
Tel: 63-2-8331234

Manila
Dates & Times:
Sun, Sept 16, at 7:00 pm
Mon, Sept 17, at 12:00 noon & 7:00 pm
Tues, Sept 18, at 12:00 noon & 7:00 pm
Location: Shangri-la Makati, Ayala Ave/Makati Ave, Makati City, Metro Manila
Tel: 63-32-8138888

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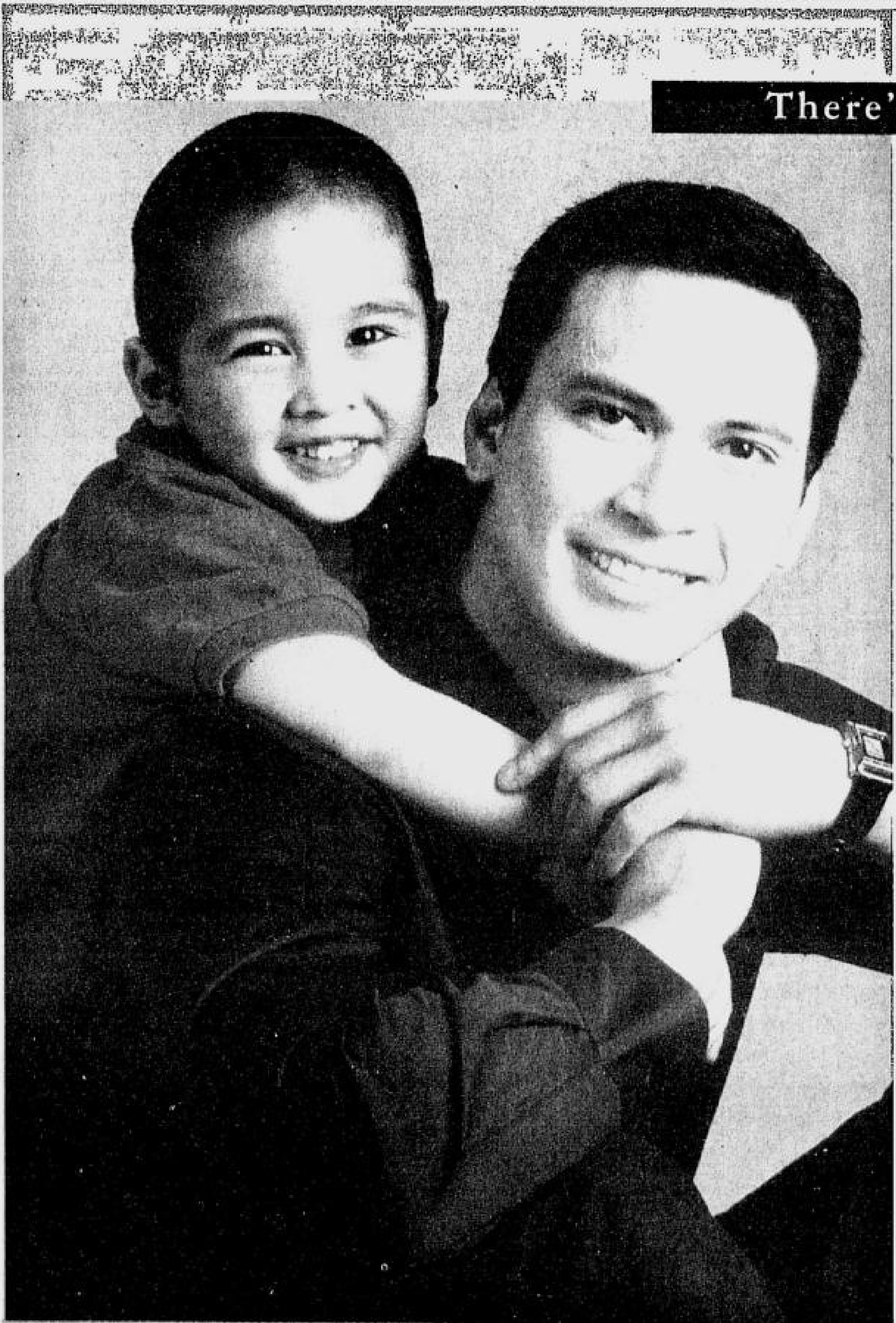

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RP to keep economic targets

By Doris C. Dumlao

THE GOVERNMENT said it was maintaining its 3.3- to 3.8-percent gross domestic product growth target for this year despite fears of worse global economic conditions arising from recent terrorist attacks on the United States.

In an interview yesterday, National Economic Development Authority officer-in-charge Gilbert Llanto said there was still no need to revise the country's GDP, inflation and fiscal targets on account of the US attacks.

For this year, the government is also hoping to keep inflation within a range of 6-7 percent and the budget deficit at a ceiling of P145 billion.

However, he said the government was carefully monitoring the adverse impacts of the attacks especially on the country's oil supply.

"We're not denying that there will be adverse impact. There will be consequences especially if oil supply deteriorates. So our main concern now is to ensure adequate supply of oil," Llanto said.

Llanto said the government's central planning agency was banking on the assurance from Energy Secretary Vince Perez and the Organization of Petroleum of Exporting Countries that there would be sufficient oil supply.

"It remains to be seen whether the attacks have the potential to delay the recovery of the US economy and therefore the rebound in Philippine exports growth," the Neda said in a separate statement yesterday.

Nevertheless, the Neda said it was "hopeful that the resiliency of the American consumers will prevail and that the government's continuing effort to strengthen the domestic economy will minimize the adverse impact of these external developments."

The technical working group of the government's Development Budget Coordination Committee is set to meet tomorrow to discuss the impact of the US crisis on the government's macroeconomic projections. However, Llanto said the government would likely hold on to its targets for the next two years.

For next year, the government is targeting a GDP growth of 4.3-4.8 percent, an inflation range of 5-6 percent and a budget deficit ceiling of P130 billion.

GDP refers to the total amount of goods and services produced by the economy in a given year less the net factor income from abroad.

Local analysts and economists said the attacks on the US brought increased uncertainties to the local stock market and the domestic economy, especially now that investors were hoping for the bottoming out of the world's biggest economy.

Abacus Securities economist Emilio Neri Jr. said: "What's critical is how the tightening of security in the US would affect the volume of US trade with the rest of the world."

Neri said it might be possible that there would be a shift in investors' preference from equities to commodities and fixed-income investments, as already reflected by the sudden rise in demand for gold and oil.

What is more scary, according to ATR Kim Eng Securities head of research Luz Lorenzo, is that the Philippines has its own terrorist group that is linked to Saudi Arabian terrorist Osama Bin Laden, the suspected mastermind behind the US attacks.

Lorenzo also explained that the unfortunate event would likely delay the recovery of the country's export sector, which has significantly weakened this year. She also expressed concern that rising global prices might result in an increase in the country's import bill even without any increase in the purchase volume.

Property firm upbeat on RP market

MALAYSIAN-BACKED real estate firm Mancon-CBDC (Constant Builders and Development Corp.) said it believed that a part of the local market was still actively looking at excellent property buys despite the sluggish economy.

Developer Mario A. Oreta, Mancon-CBDC president, said there were strong indicators that the upper A and upper B markets "will continue to invest in properties that will appreciate in value in the medium- to long-term." The C market, for its part, is expected to continue to buying homes and is doing so with government assistance.

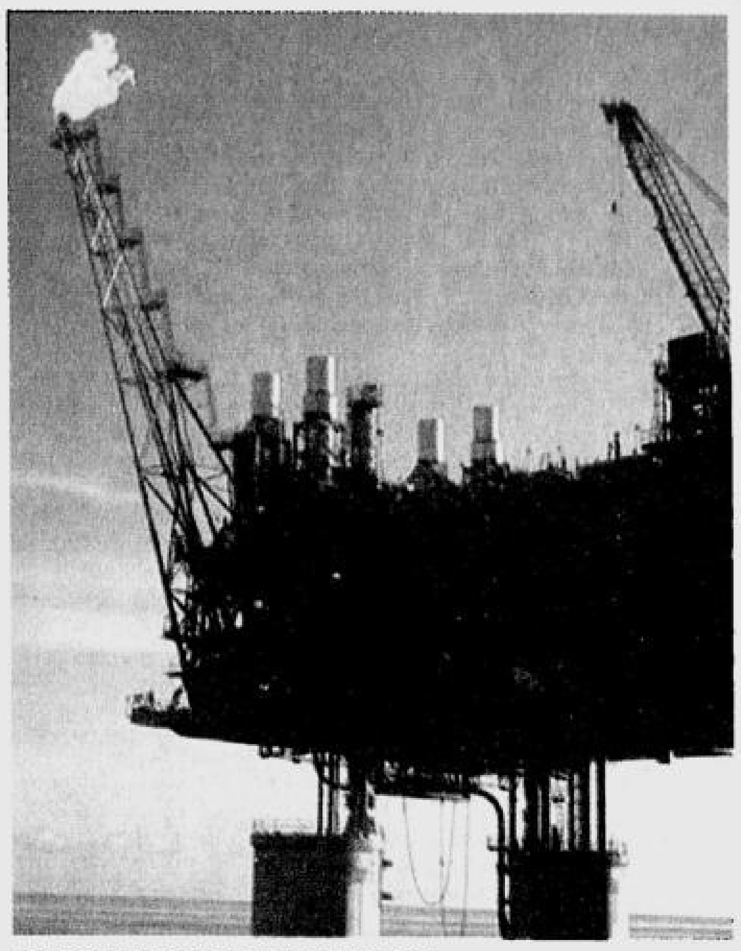
"Financial investments at this time may not be yielding attractive returns," Oreta pointed out. "That is why people are looking at more productive uses of their financial resources, and real estate remains a preferred option," he observed.

"In the Philippines, the value of real estate may plateau for a certain period, but it never really dives and it will eventually take an upturn," Oreta said. "This makes real estate some kind of an inflation-proof investment option," he added.

Oreta said the upper echelon of the market has been looking for good buys in locations that were near facilities that would immediately add value to the property.

Oreta said Mancon-CBDC was seriously looking at helping the A, B and C market segments meet their requirements.

Mancon-CBDC is backed by Malaysian property development conglomerate Mancon-Berhad, which is based in Kuala Lumpur.



MALAMPAYA'S FIRST LIGHT

Final touches are ongoing at the Malampaya Platform offshore Northwest Palawan, the Philippines' first offshore natural gas project in preparation for the first delivery of gas to the Santa Rita and Ilijan Power Plants on Oct. 1. The platform has commenced processing gas from the deep-water wells that were completed earlier this year and should produce gas for at least 20 years.

GSIS: Who wants to be a millionaire?

(From page B7)

law. GSIS has in effect amended the retirement law to favor its own officials. And if it was to buy loyalty, how expensive could it be?

By whatever name, let's not kid ourselves. This is not just circumvention of the law. It is an open defiance of it. The COA memo states in no uncertain terms: "Although referred to as financial assistance, it constituted additional retirement benefits and supplementary pension/retirement plan resulting in an increase in benefits beyond what is allowed under existing retirement laws promulgated by GSIS for all government employees."

As a result, the former GSIS president retired with a P16.6-million package, along with 16 other officials and personnel including a driver who retired with P833,000.

GSIS: Anti-small fry?

The unkindest cut of all is that when the small guys are claiming what are due them, they are denied. One of the cases that exasperate me no end is the case of Belarmino vs ECC and GSIS (GR 90204, May 11, 1990). A poor public school teacher died as a result of internal hemorrhage and infection due to an accidental fall inside the classroom while teaching her pupils in Buracan, Dimasalang, Masbate.

The GSIS denied the widower's claim for death benefits allegedly because the death was not related to her job as a teacher. The family appealed but the ECC affirmed the GSIS decision blaming the family of Belarmino for not bringing the teacher to the hospital on time. The nerve.

High court scolds the government

In reversing both the GSIS and the ECC, the high court held: "But who is to blame for her inability to afford a hospital delivery and the services of trained doctors and nurses? The court may take judicial notice of the meager salaries that the government pays its public school teachers. Forced to live on the margin of poverty, they are unable to afford expensive hospital care and the services of trained doctors and nurses when they or the members of their families are ill. Penury compelled the deceased to scrimp by delivering her baby at home instead of in a hospital.

The court held: "The government is not entirely blameless for her death for it is not entirely blameless for her poverty. The government has yet to perform its declared policy to free the people from poverty, provide adequate social services, extend to them a decent standard of living, and improve the quality of life for all."

GSIS ignores its members

The Supreme Court laments: "Social justice for the lowly and underpaid public school teachers will only be an empty shibboleth until the government adopts measures to ameliorate their economic condition and provides them with adequate medical care or the means to afford it."

GSIS was chided by the highest court, thus: "Compassion for the poor is an imperative of every humane society" (PLDT vs. Bucay and NLRC, 164 SCRA 671, 673). By their denial of the petitioner's claim for benefits arising from the death of his wife, the public respondents ignored this imperative of the government, and thereby committed a grave abuse of discretion."

Millionaires vs poor

If GSIS exercised utmost prudence in the administration of the State Insurance Fund by denying claims filed by the poor civil servants, what sense of justice would allow it to award its officials and personnel a fantastic package of retirement benefits such as those reported above.

Let GSIS explain this to the people. As for us, we can only concur with the COA, it is morally indefensible.

(For comments, you can reach the writer at the following e-mail address: josephus.jimenez@pcppi.com.ph.)

Court issues injunction vs Cosmos sale to SMC

(From page B7)

claim the Jaz Cola bottling business operations he sold to Cosmos in late 1996 for P1.168 billion.

Syjuco has asked the court to rescind the memorandum of agreement governing the sale of Jaz Cola based on substantial contractual breaches stemming from the failure of the Concepcions, through Cosmos, to pay over P400 million in tax and other obligations.

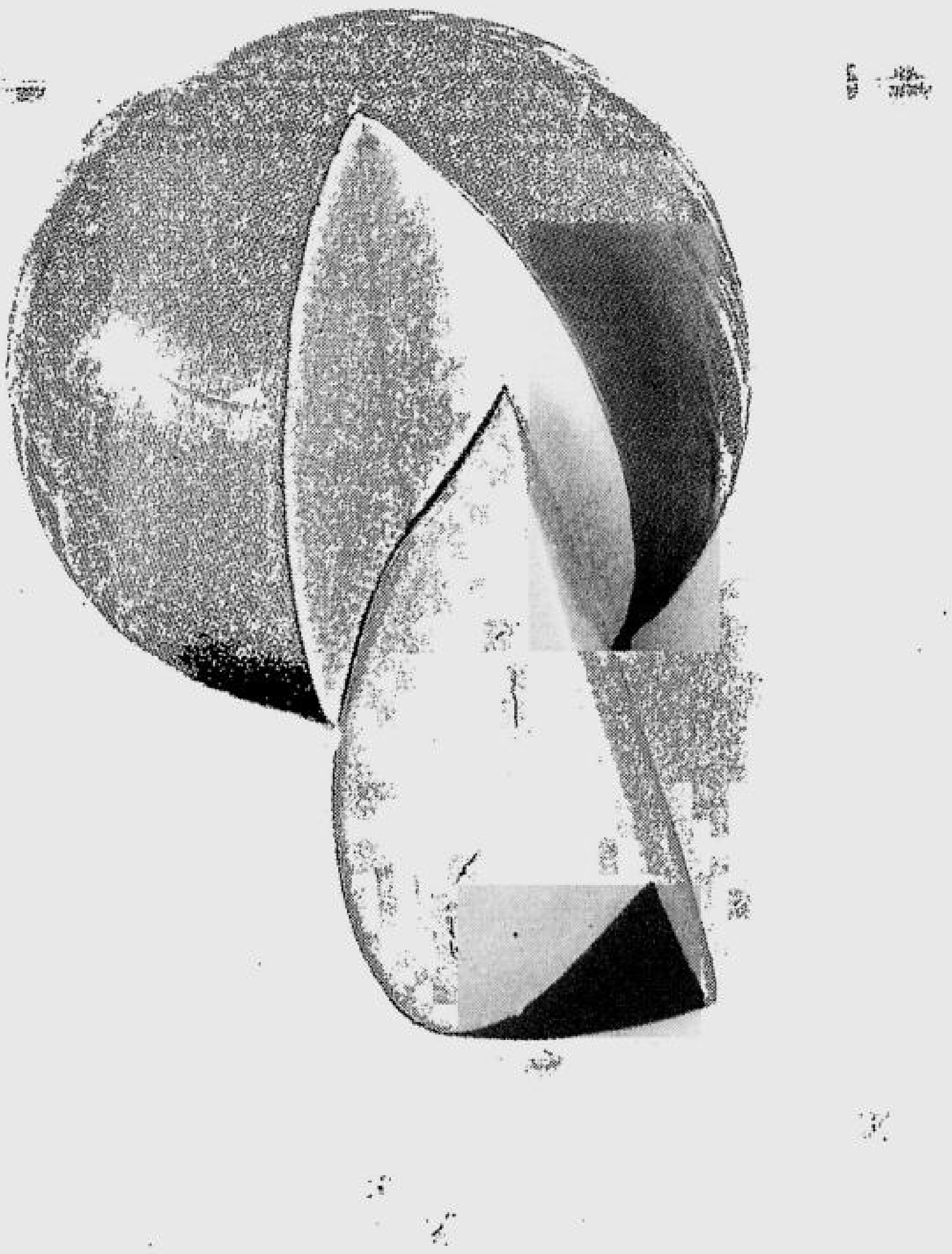
The order, issued by QC RTC branch 216, enjoins and restrains Cosmos and the company's board and top officers "from proceeding with the sale of defendants corporations and their properties to SMC and/or to third person/entities insofar as it involves the properties of the plaintiffs" and other assets listed in the MOA.

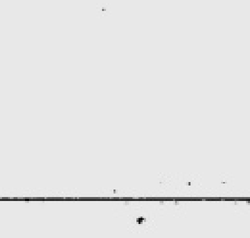
Early last month, RFM and SMC signed a memorandum of understanding providing for the sale of Cosmos to San Miguel for an enterprise value of P15 billion but subject to due diligence.

In a progress review meeting last week, SMC and RFM representatives agreed to take measures to accelerate the completion of the due diligence and the drafting of a share purchase agreement for the Cosmos sale, RFM said.

RFM executive vice president Felicisimo Nacino Jr. said RFM and San Miguel Corp. have discussed beforehand the possible issuance of an injunction and have prepared several options to be able to go through with the deal without violating the said injunction.

"Remember that even if Mr. Syjuco eventually is in the main case, he has to return to Cosmos at least P1.2 billion paid to him by Cosmos. He can't get back his assets if he can't give back the money," he said





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G7 pledges to avert global economic crisis

ROME—Finance ministers and central bank governors of the Group of Seven (G7) leading industrialized nations pledged on Wednesday to ensure that terrorist attacks on the United States would not disrupt the global economy.

In a joint statement released in Rome, they condemned "the appalling terrorist attacks carried out in the United States, on September 11."

"Our condolences go out to those who have suffered and lost loved ones as a result of these cowardly actions," they said.

"We are committed to ensuring that this tragedy will not be compounded by disruption to the global economy," they added.

"Our central banks have indicated that they will provide liquidity to ensure that financial markets operate in an orderly fashion.

"We will monitor economic developments and financial markets closely and stand ready to take further action as necessary."

The G7, which is currently presided by Italy, also comprises Britain, Canada, France, Germany, Japan and the United States. *AFP*

Stunned Asian, EU ministers study fallout of attacks on US

HANOI—Stunned Asian and European trade ministers were trying to absorb the implications on the global economy as they resumed talks here after unprecedented terror attacks on the financial heart of the United States.

World markets were in a tailspin as ministers went into the talks, many still bleary-eyed after staying up into the early hours to monitor the astonishing developments in New York and Washington.

Share prices plunged 6.6 percent in Tokyo and 8.9 percent in Hong Kong, while prices closed down 12 percent in Seoul after Tuesday's attacks on the World Trade Center, which prompted the indefinite closure of Wall Street.

Japanese Economy, Trade and Industry Minister Takeo Hiranuma expressed alarm over the implications of a world economy already confronting a worsening slowdown, although he added he hoped they would not be lasting.

"In the short term, there is a very big economic impact," he told a lunchtime news conference.

"Our stock market price has come down very sharply—below 10,000. In addition, the gold price has shot up very sharply.

"I hope there will be no serious impact on the (global) economy in the long term."

Chinese junior trade minister Sun Zhenyu said the severity of the fallout was already clear, even though ministers were still digesting the long-term implications.

"Exports to the US will go down to a certain degree and our overall investment abroad will also be affected."

The impact would not only be on the economy, he said. World diplomacy and policymaking were also likely to be affected as the US administration was forced to focus on the rescue and rebuilding effort in the nation's heart.

"This event will make some delay to the important functions of international meetings, because US will need more time to deal with this domestic issue," he said.

Sun did not spell out which meetings Beijing anticipated being delayed.

But next month China is due to host a first visit by US President George W. Bush for an Asia Pacific Economic Cooperation (Apec) summit in Shanghai.

And in November the communist giant is hoping to be finally admitted to the World Trade Organization at a landmark meeting due to be held in the Gulf state of Qatar.

South Korean Trade Minister Doo-Yun Hwang said the attacks would have a "negative impact" on trade, investment and currency rates, and spark a "shrinkage of private construction."

But he too added he hoped it would be "short-lived." *AFP*

Japan may not sell NTT stock this year

TOKYO—The Japanese government is considering skipping the sale of part of its stake in top carrier Nippon Telegraph and Telephone Corp. this fiscal year to prevent further damage to the stock market, a newspaper said on Thursday.

The Nihon Keizai Shimbun business daily said the government, which owns a 45.9-percent stake in the former state telecoms monopoly, is worried that putting additional NTT shares on the market would worsen the market's supply and demand situation.

The government plans to divest up to 1 million of its NTT shares in the year to next March to help plug a budget gap and further privatize the company.

Based on previous sell-offs, the next sale was expected to take place between October and December, but sources indicated that nothing had been decided yet.

Shares in NTT rose 4.39 percent in the morning to 476,000 yen ($3,984), recovering from a steep fall yesterday sparked by attacks in the United States on the World Trade Center and the Pentagon.

However, they remain below the offering price of the previous three sales, including the latest in December when the government sold 1 million shares at 949,000 yen each and NTT simultaneously issued 300,000 new shares.

Market participants blame the increased supply of shares and long slide in investor confidence in telecoms for the overall fall in NTT's share price, which is hovering near a record closing low of 453,000 yen posted in August 1992.

Alternatives sought

The Ministry of Finance, which is in charge of the divestiture, said in late June that it would study new ways to sell NTT shares, including block sales to investors, to avoid saturating the already sluggish market.

The newspaper added that a senior NTT official believed that even if the company was to start preparing for another sale now, there would probably not be sufficient time to carry it out this year. *Reuters*

StanChart to delay Hong Kong listing

HONG KONG—London quoted Standard Chartered Plc will put on hold its plans to also list on the Hong Kong stock exchange, following the terror attacks on the United States, a Hong Kong newspaper said on Thursday.

The Chinese-language Ming Pao daily quoted market sources as saying Goldman Sachs, the lead manager of Standard Chartered's share offering, had told syndicates of the delay.

"The situation is under review," a Standard Chartered spokesperson in Hong Kong said, declining to say whether that meant the issue would be delayed.

Goldman Sachs was not immediately available for comment.

Asian specialist bank Standard Chartered said last month that it had applied for a dual primary listing on the Hong Kong stock exchange and expected to list in the fourth quarter of this year.

Group executive director Mervyn Davies had said the offering in Hong Kong would total no more than 5 percent of Standard Chartered's issued share capital.

Standard Chartered, which earns over half of its revenue in Asia, is the third largest bank in Hong Kong by assets behind global banking giant HSBC Holdings Plc and the Bank of China.

HSBC is listed in Hong Kong, London and New York and is the largest company on the Hong Kong stock exchange by market capitalization.

Standard Chartered's shares closed 6.54-percent higher on Wednesday at 700 pence. *Reuters*

No long-term damage on markets, S&P

NEW YORK—Financial ratings firm Standard & Poor's said on Thursday that it did not believe Tuesday's attacks at the World Trade Center and the Pentagon would have a long-term adverse impact on the economy.

"Our economic, financial and debt analysts continue to assess the situation and we are convinced that this will not have a negative long-standing impact on global financial markets," said S&P president Leo O'Neill in a statement.

S&P also said that to its knowledge, none of its employees were among the victims of the devastating attacks at the World Trade Center, and the company's systems and data in its Lower Manhattan office were unimpaired.

S&P said it would resume operations in its office at 55 Water Street in Lower Manhattan "in accordance with instructions from government officials." *Reuters*

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CITIBANK

AFTERMATH OF U.S. ATTACKS

Capitalism strikes back in confidence war

SINGAPORE—Policy makers and central banks around the world are pulling out the stops to prevent the US terror attacks from so unhinging business and consumer confidence that a recession becomes a self-fulfilling prophecy.

Federal Reserve Bank of Dallas President Robert McTeer spoke for many on Wednesday when he said it was too soon to determine the economic impact of the attacks.

"It won't depend as much on what happened as how we react," he said.

McTeer was optimistic about the economic outlook and said, historically, market reaction to disasters has been short-lived.

That sentiment was shared by many financial analysts and investment banks, with J.P. Morgan calling the attack a significant but very temporary blow to the economy.

In its first assessment of the economic damage of Tuesday's terror, Morgan said the disruption to travel and retail activity was likely to result in a negative reading for US third-quarter gross domestic product growth.

"However, there will not be lasting disruptions to the US economy or its financial system," the bank said. "A return to normalcy should be evident by next week."

In longer term, it depended on the US political and military response to the attack. A limited reaction against terrorist groups would have little economic impact.

"In contrast, a conflict that directly involves another nation state—particularly an oil producing nation—would have much more serious ramifications," the investment bank said.

Confidence chorus

Japan's top government spokesperson said on Thursday that it was natural for the Group of Seven countries to coordinate for global financial stability in the wake of the US attacks.

"It is natural that the G7 should do its best to pursue our common interest," Chief Cabinet Secretary Yasuo Fukuda said.

Japan's top financial diplomat, Haruhiko Kuroda, said he expected that a meeting of G7 finance ministers scheduled on Sept. 28 would "naturally be held," though he had yet to get official notice that it was going ahead.

Annual meetings of the World Bank and International Monetary Fund (IMF) are expected to be canceled, stirring some talk the G7 meeting might also be called off.

G7 finance ministers and central bankers issued a statement on Wednesday, saying they were "committed to ensuring this tragedy will not be compounded by disruption to the global economy" and they "stand ready to take further action as necessary."

The IMF added an upbeat declaration of its own, saying it expected only a limited impact of the attacks on the global economy and it stood ready to help countries that may need it.

"Our present assessment is that, despite the scale of the human tragedy, these terrible events will have only a limited impact on the international economy and global financial system," IMF Managing Director Horst Koehler said.

Adding to the chorus, Swiss National Bank Vice Chair Bruno Gehrig said he expected the US stock market to bounce back quickly, helping restore calm to jittery global markets.

"I assume, at the start, there will be a certain decline, but I would be amazed if there would be a collapse, as some fear," he said, voicing hope that an American sense of solidarity and patriotism would keep sentiment strong despite the shock.

The US Securities and Exchange Commission said it was considering the unusual step of easing restrictions on corporate share buybacks to help provide liquidity when markets do reopen.

Flush with cash

On a practical front, central banks were doing their part to keep markets flush with liquidity, with the Fed, the Bank of Japan (BOJ) and the European Central Bank (ECB) injecting no less than $120 billion into the banking system on Wednesday.

The Fed alone pumped $38 billion in temporary reserves into the system, around 10 times the daily average. It also "substantially elevated" the discount window borrowing, a major concession to commercial banks since they can borrow at just 3 percent, half a point below the usual funds rate.

The ECB has a scheduled policy meeting later on Thursday, though analysts assume a cut is unlikely, given that the bank President Wim Duisenberg said Wednesday it might prove counterproductive to rush into hasty moves.

Nevertheless, a Reuters poll of analysts found many had raised the odds of an easing, particularly if the Fed were to take early action.

The Fed's next scheduled meeting is on Oct. 2, but the bank is not shy of taking aggressive action and has already twice cut rates between meetings this year.

Fed Chair Alan Greenspan was back at his desk in Washington on Wednesday, having hitched a lift from Switzerland on a military flight, and markets were awash with talk that he would arrange an emergency cut, perhaps in the next few days.

There was also speculation the BOJ could take further easing steps at its policy meeting next Tuesday.

Early on Thursday, BOJ Policy Board member Toshio Miki said the Japanese economy was moving backward and the bank was studying ways to stem deflation. *Reuters*

Dollar puts on brave face in thin trading

TOKYO—The dollar found solace in sparse trade on Thursday as major economies tried to restore confidence following devastating aerial assaults in New York and Washington.

The US Federal Reserve on Wednesday pumped $38.25 billion in temporary reserves into the US banking system, an amount analysts said was 10 times the daily average and akin to cutting short-term interest rates.

Central bankers of the Group of Seven (G7) world economic powers said they were ready to provide liquidity to ensure markets operate "in an ordinary fashion."

"The market is reacting calmly, with trading very thin. It's surprising how the dollar's been holding up so well," a dealer at a Japanese bank said.

"Obviously, there are major worries about settlement risk, but very few are willing to ditch their morals and speculate at a time like this," he said.

By late morning, the dollar held steady at 119.47 yen from 119.49 in late New York and up over a yen from a post-attack low of 118.50 yen.

The euro was calm at 90.57/62 cents and 108.36/46 yen from 90.62 and 108.43.

Tokyo dealers said volumes were down to nearly a quarter of normal turnover as they remained transfixed on images of heart-wrenching rescue work being done at the World Trade Center and the Pentagon where thousands are feared dead.

The market also fretted over possible glitches in settlement, though the Bank of Japan (BOJ) said it was told Japanese banks had no notable problems in settling dollar funds during New York trade.

Damage to US

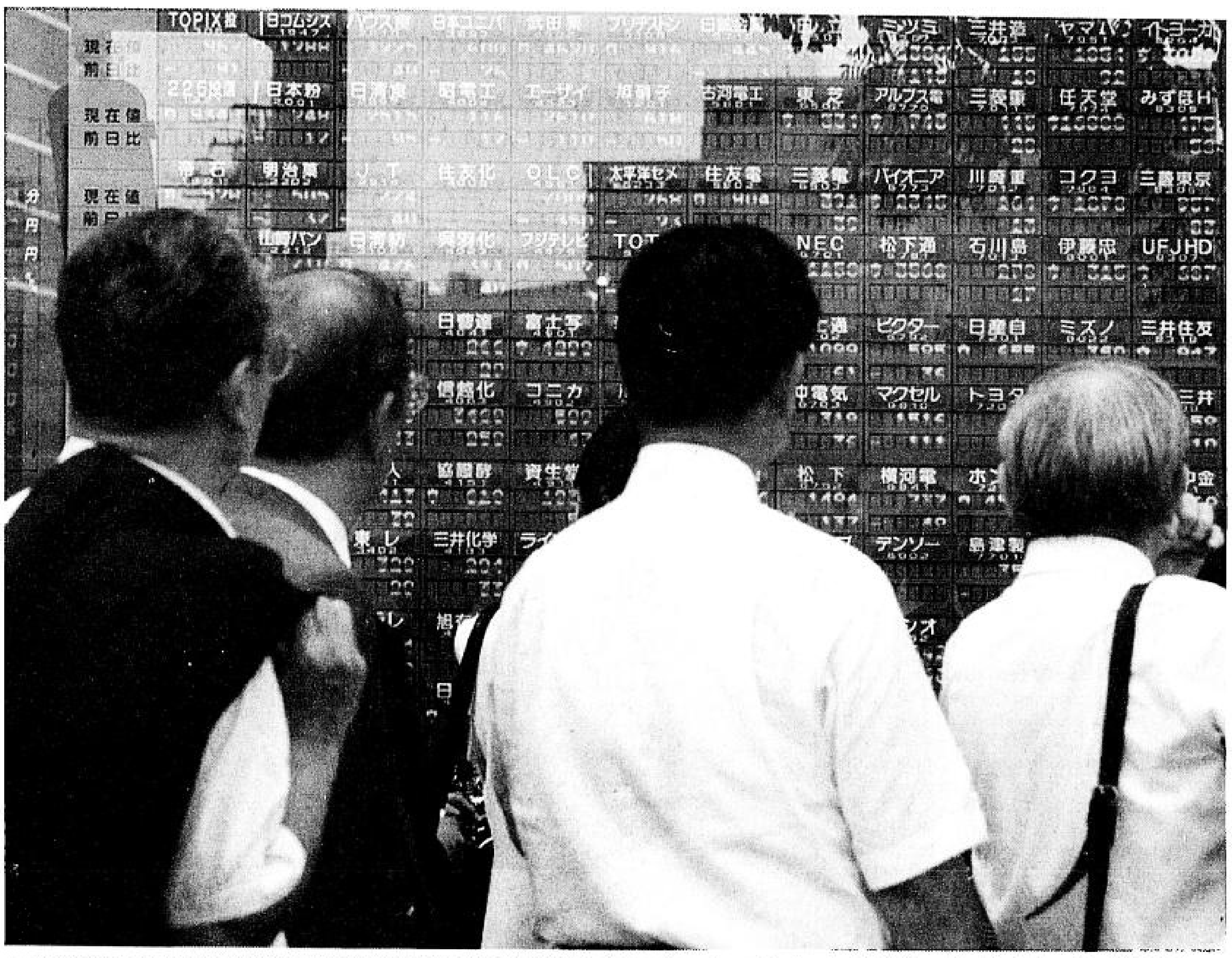
As many struggled to assess the economic implications of the attack, analysts saw the dollar pressured, given the obvious damage to US consumer confidence and business activity.

But they said much of the luster would be on European currencies rather than the yen.

"The dollar will likely weaken against the European currencies, with repatriation out of US markets," said Koji Fukaya, chief forex strategist at Bank of Tokyo-Mitsubishi.

"But will Japanese investors start repatriating assets from the US market?

"Not really, because the situation has not changed—when the US economy suffers, Asian economies will, too, and there will be big damage to the Japanese economy," he said, referring to the region's heavy dependence on exports. *Reuters*



JAPANESE businessmen look at an electronic stock board as the Tokyo share prices plunged below the 10,000-yen level in Tokyo, Sept. 12, 2001.

WEAK TRADE FIGURES

Japan economic outlook darkens

TOKYO—Japan's economic outlook, more uncertain than ever after terror attacks in the United States, darkened again on Thursday with news that the current account surplus shrank for the eighth straight month in July.

The Ministry of Finance (MOF) said the surplus, the broadest measure of trade in goods and services, fell 28.2 percent in July from a year earlier to 775.6 billion yen ($6.49 billion).

The MOF said Japan's trade surplus shrank 50.1 percent to 579.8 billion yen as the global slowdown and a slump in high-tech spending hit the world's second-biggest economy—now teetering on the edge of its fourth recession in a decade.

"Semiconductors and other such high-tech exports fell in July, due to the global economic slump," a MOF official said. "And on the other hand we saw a stronger yen boost imports, including items from Asia."

A shift in manufacturing to other parts of Asia was also dragging down the current account surplus, he said.

Economists said they had expected weak figures.

"It's much in line with expectations. The surplus is likely to continue to fall given that the U.S. economy is slowing down," said Yasunari Ueno, chief market economist at Mizuho Securities.

The government, which announced a 0.8 percent contraction in second-quarter gross domestic product last week, will release its September monthly report on the economy later in the day.

The MOF official said the impact on Japan of the attacks in New York and Washington was not yet clear.

"We don't have enough information to be able to answer that," he said when asked by reporters how trade figures from September may be affected.

Many economists fear Tuesday's attacks by aircraft hijackers on New York's signature World Trade Center and the Pentagon could push the US economy into recession and thwart chances of an early recovery for Japan's exports.

"The recovery in trade depends on the US economy. I thought it would recover this year, but because of what happened two days ago, this trend is likely to continue until next year," said Kenji Arata, an economist at MCM Asia Pacific.Japan's economic strains were highlighted as data showed on Thursday its current account surplus shrank for the eighth straight month in July.

Speculation on rates

Speculation was also rife that the world's major economies would unleash a coordinated round of monetary easing similar to one that occurred when Wall Street crashed in 1987.

Those hopes were heightened after news that Federal Reserve Chair Alan Greenspan was returning to the United States from a regular meeting of central bankers in Switzerland.

A Japanese newspaper reported the BOJ was considering further monetary easing, with the issue to be discussed at its next Policy Board meeting from Tuesday.

But Bank of England Governor Eddie George had put a damper on the talk overnight, saying a coordinated response to any economic shock was "extremely unlikely." George also said it was too soon to speculate about coordinated interest rate cuts.

Japan kept the specter of intervention alive when Japanese Finance Minister Masajuro Shiokawa said on Wednesday that such action might be necessary if currencies were volatile.

That was followed by comments from Japanese Chief Cabinet Secretary Yasuo Fukuda on Thursday that it was natural for the G7 to coordinate for global financial stability in the wake of the terror attacks.
Reuters

Oil prices surge in Asia on fears of Gulf tensions

SINGAPORE—Oil prices remained high in Asian afternoon trading Wednesday on concerns of mounting tension in the Middle East after deadly terrorist attacks in New York and Washington, dealers here said.

Brent crude oil for spot delivery was fetching between $30 and $31 a barrel, they said.

It was trading around $24 a barrel here before terrorists struck at key buildings in New York and Washington.

But dealers said prices were not about to break out into an upward spiral as the Organization of Petroleum Exporting Countries (Opec) would not want to be seen as beneficiaries of the terrorist action, said a strategist at a Singapore bank who asked not to be named.

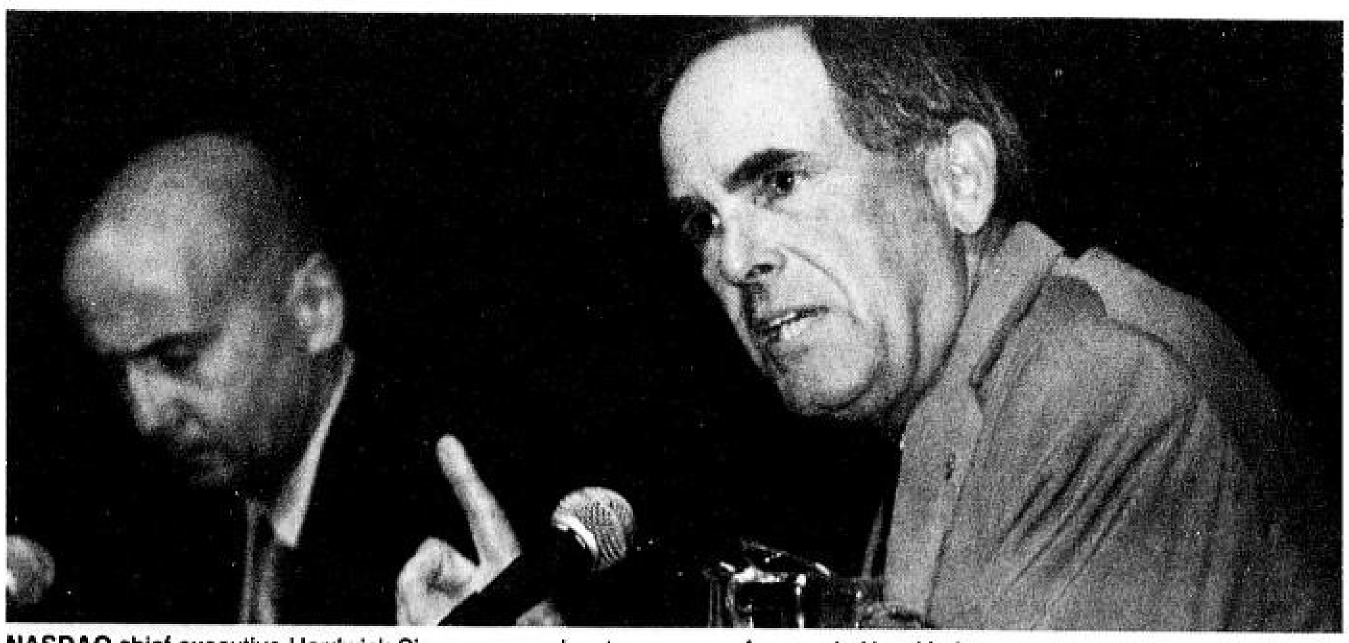
"Opec members at this moment would be committed to price stability and would not want to be seen taking advantage, and they certainly do not want to be seen benefiting from terrorist acts," said the strategist.

All bets would be off, however, should there be more attacks on American soil, said Arjuna Mahendran, a regional economist at SG Securities.

"If they strike another place in the US, it will go up," he said. DBS Bank said oil prices are expected to "stay high for a while."

"The focus will be on the Middle East and a potential retaliatory attacks by the US in that region," it said.

"That will keep oil prices high and impact an already weak US economy adversely," the bank added. *AFP*



NASDAQ chief executive Hardwick Simmons speaks at a news conference in New York to announce the stock markets hopes to resume business today.

US attacks should have 'limited effect' on Europe

BRUSSELS—Terrorist attacks that demolished the World Trade Center in New York and damaged the Pentagon in Washington should have only "limited effects" on Europe's economy, EU Commissioner for Economic and Monetary Affairs Pedro Solbes said Wednesday.

"I hope that we can get back to a situation of increased normality from the point of view of the financial markets," he said on the sidelines of a European Commission meeting.

"Of course there will be effects" on the exchange rate of the dollar," which fell sharply after the attacks, "and on oil prices," which shot up, said Solbes.

Consequently, he added: "A maximum of attention should be paid to changes in financial markets and their proper functioning."

Belgium Finance Minister Didier Reynders, whose country holds the current EU presidency and who chairs the Euro group, said "all measures have been taken to assure the adequate functioning of financial markets and the stability of the system."

Echoing earlier remarks to a European Parliament committee by European Central Bank president Wim Duisenberg, Reynders stressed that the 12-nation euro group countries were "obviously prepared, in close collaboration with the American authorities, to provide all necessary aid."

Reynders said the role of European economic leaders was to "prove that it is possible to maintain calm and confidence and keep the economy functioning," despite the events in the US. *AFP*

Bush to attend Apec summit despite attacks

BEIJING—U.S. President George W. Bush will attend an October summit of Asia-Pacific leaders in Shanghai despite the catastrophic terror attacks on the United States, a top Chinese official said on Thursday.

Bush told Chinese President Jiang Zemin in a telephone conversation on Wednesday night he would attend the meeting, Vice Foreign Minister Wang Guangya told a news conference.

"After the conversation between the Chinese and U.S. presidents after the attack, President George W. Bush has confirmed that he will attend as planned the October event, the Apec informal meeting in Shanghai," said Wang.

The Asia-Pacific Economic Cooperation summit is scheduled to feature the first meeting between Jiang and Bush. Nineteen other leaders from around the region are due to attend.

Wang gave assurances of tight security at the event.

"The relevant organizing committees for the Apec informal leaders' meeting to be held in Shanghai have always paid the highest attention to the issue of security," he said. "We will try our best to provide security guarantees."

Apec sorganizers said on Wednesday they had not been informed of any changes in the schedule since three hijacked planes ploughed into New York's World Trade Center and the Pentagon in Washington on Tuesday, killing thousands.

"We have not received any notice. We are still doing preparatory work. From our department's point of view we will not be influenced, but I can't speak for others," said Chen Jingxi, a division chief at Shanghai's Apec Preparatory Office.

Another official at the press division of the Shanghai city government's Foreign Affairs Office told Reuters his department had not received any notice of changes in schedule from any of the 21 attending countries.

Apec groups Australia, Brunei, Canada, China, Chile, Hong Kong, Indonesia, Japan, South Korea, Malaysia, Mexico, New Zealand, Papua New Guinea, Peru, the Philippines, Russia, Singapore, Taiwan, Thailand, the United States and Vietnam. *Reuters*

PRESSING his forehead a Tokyo businessman walks past a Tokyo brokerage's electric board indicating Tokyo's main index sharp drop of 682 points Wednesday afternoon, Sept. 12, 2001.

AFTER U.S. ATTACKS

Insurers may face $15-B bill

LONDON—The insurance industry is bracing for losses of $10-$15 billion from the terror attacks in New York—approaching the $20 billion bill from world's most expensive disaster, Hurricane Andrew.

Global insurer Lloyd's of London could be facing a loss of around 300 million pounds ($439 million) or more from Tuesday's catastrophe, roughly 3 percent of its underwriting capacity, while re-insurers Swiss Re and Munich Re, could also be heavily exposed.

"The early indications seem to be that the loss may be in the region of $10 to $15 billion," an analyst for credit rating agency Moody's told Reuters, a day after two hijacked aircraft demolished the twin towers of New York's World Trade Center.

Thousands are feared dead.

Ian Clark, partner with actuarial consultancy B & W Deloitte, said it was difficult to quantify at this stage but claims were certain to be significant. "It ranks up there with Hurricane Andrew," said Clarke, speaking on Sky television.

Yet precise liabilities may still have to be settled in court.

In Britain, repeated bomb attacks by the Irish Republican Army mean policies exclude terror attacks, but this is not the case in the United States. Yet analysts said arguments could not be ruled out.

WestLB Panmure analysts Carsten Zielke and Frank Stoffel noted the U.S. state have liablity because of any security lapses. "The uncertainty, above all due to the still very uncertain legal position, is considerable," they said in a research note.

Profits hurt

The world's largest reinsurer, Germany's Munich Re, was one of the first to give an estimate of the likely cost, putting its liabilities at up to 1.0 billion euros ($907 million) and saying this would severely hurt profits.

Swiss Re, the world's second biggest reinsurer, said rough initial estimates were in the range of claims for the severe winter storms in Europe in December 1999, which cost it around 1.2 billion Swiss francs ($722 million), though it said it would weather any financial fallout.

"Although this is one of the largest damage incidents, the economic strength of Swiss Re is not in danger," the group said in a statement.

The reassuring comment helped Swiss Re shares bounce from Tuesday's heavy decline, closing up 4.4 percent at 132.0 francs. Munich Re rallied 6.4 percent to 245.2 euros, but there were further sharp falls elsewhere in the sector with Zurich Financial, AXA and Royal & Sun Alliance down 5 percent or more.

Some experts agreed that bigger firms would be solid enough to take what was coming.

Dominic Skeet, a director at credit rating agency Standard & Poor's, said: "The higher-rated companies have got the balance sheets which we would anticipate being sufficiently strong to be able to absorb these sort of events."

Claims could come in for the twin World Trade Center towers, which cost $750 million to build in the early 1970s, as well as from the airlines that owned the hijacked planes, United Airlines, part of UAL Corp. and American Airlines, part of AMR Corp.

Massive losses

But there are also likely to be thousands of claims for loss of life, personal accident and workers' compensation. Lloyd's, where members have underwritten insurance policies for more than three centuries, is still recovering from massive losses in the 1980s and 1990s when many members, or "Names", were bankrupted by claims stemming from floods, an oil rig explosion and diseases linked to asbestos.

"Some of the (Lloyd's) syndicates could be tested by these events," said another industry expert.

Lloyd's plans to issue a statement within 24 hours. The insurer apparently asked underwriting syndicates to give an assessment of their exposure by 1100 GMT on Wednesday.

Amlin Plc, the third largest Lloyd's underwriter, was due to report its mid-year results on Wednesday, but delayed the figures to September 18 in the light of the attacks.

"We will try to get something (on the level of claims) in the next few days," Finance Director Richard Hextall said.

Shares in two other Lloyds underwriters fell sharply, with Hiscox Plc dropping 20 percent and BRIT Insurance Plc sliding 16 percent.

Britain's biggest insurers, CGNU Plc and Royal & Sun Alliance, were also still calculating what portion of the bill they would might have to foot.

US commission OKs Chevron-Texaco merger

SAN FRANCISCO, California and White Plains, New York—Chevron Corp. and Texaco Inc. confirmed that the US Federal Trade Commission (FTC) has approved a consent order that will allow the two companies to complete their previously announced merger.

The new company, ChevronTexaco Corp., will rank among the world's largest energy companies and will be highly competitive across all energy sectors.

Separately, the companies have negotiated a consent decree with the attorneys general of 12 US states. In addition, the companies have obtained necessary regulatory approvals from the European Union and several countries where the two companies have major operations.

"Today marks a critically important milestone as we move to establish a premier energy company with the world-class assets, talent, financial strength and technology to achieve superior results," said Chevron chair and CEO David J. O'Reilly, who will lead the new company in the same capacity.

"Our integration planning since announcing the merger last October has gone exceptionally well. Upon receiving stockholder approval, we will be ready to start operating effectively as one company."

Texaco Chair and CEO Glenn F. Tilton said, "The new ChevronTexaco will bring together two great companies with long histories of success and innovation to tackle the new challenges we face in meeting the energy needs of our customers and partners.

"We are fully prepared to comply with all of the conditions of the consent order and look forward to completing the merger and creating a great new energy company," added Tilton, who, along with Richard H. Matzke, vice chair of Chevron, will serve as vice chair of ChevronTexaco.

Chevron and Texaco will satisfy the following conditions listed in the consent order to complete the merger:

- Texaco will divest its interests in the US downstream joint ventures Motiva Enterprises LLC and Equilon Enterprises LLC.

If Texaco is not able to complete a sale of its interest in Motiva to Shell and Saudi Refining Inc., and its interest in Equilon to Shell prior to the merger, it will place the stock of the Texaco subsidiaries that hold those interests in a Divestiture Trust just prior to merger close for sale within eight months of the merger date.

- Subject to certain conditions, Texaco will extend its license of the Texaco brand to Equilon and Motiva on an exclusive basis until June 30, 2003, and on a non-exclusive basis until June 30, 2006.
- ChevronTexaco will divest Texaco's interest in the Discovery Pipeline System within six months of the merger date, and Texaco will resign as operator of the System.
- ChevronTexaco will divest Texaco's interest in the Enterprise Fractionating Plant in Mont Belvieu, Texas, within six months of the merger date.
- Texaco will divest a portion of its US general aviation business.

Chevron and Texaco will seek approval of the merger by their respective stockholders at separate stockholder meetings scheduled for Oct. 9 in Houston, Texas.

The merger joins two leading energy companies and long-time partners. The new company will have world-class upstream positions in reserves, production and exploration opportunities; an integrated, worldwide refining and marketing business; a global chemicals business; expanded growth platforms in natural gas and power; and industry-leading skills in technology innovation.

ChevronTexaco will have a combined enterprise market value of more than $100 billion, assets of $83 billion, net proved reserves of 11.5 billion barrels of oil equivalent (BOE), daily production of 2.7 million BOE and operations throughout the world.

Japan car shares tumble on fears US demand to slow

TOKYO—Shares of Japanese automakers continued to tumble on Thursday on fears that consumer sentiment would dry up in the United States as the nation struggled to recover from the shocking terror attacks on their power centers this week.

Nissan Motor Co. Ltd. paced the declines, hitting its daily loss limit of 50 yen as of 0418 GMT, down 7.63 percent at 605 yen. That was far worse than the 0.51-percent fall in the key Nikkei 225 average.

Japan's top carmaker Toyota Motor Corp. and third-ranked Honda Motor Co. Ltd. also edged toward daily loss limits.

Toyota, whose North American sales account for 30 percent of global sales, was down 200 yen, or 5.88 percent at 3,200 yen. Honda Motor, whose cars sell well in the United States, lost 220 yen or 4.79 percent to 4,370 yen.

The halving of the daily loss limits on the Tokyo Stock Exchange helped prevent bigger damage.

"People are afraid that the US sentiment will come off, and the US is basically the engine of profits," said William Nestuck, auto analyst at WestLB Panmure.

Analysts said the closure of the New York Stock Exchange until at least Friday has left investors apprehensive about the future and sent the Tokyo bourse's transport equipment sub-index down 5 percent. It fell 7 percent on Wednesday.

Some said the fall was too panicked.

"We've seen some heavy selling. I think it is getting a bit overdone," said Stephen Usher, auto analyst at JP Morgan, referring especially to Nissan, Toyota and Mazda Motor Corp.

"The prices of these shares are already factoring in a worst-case scenario and if things aren't as bad as everyone is assuming they will become, there is some upside potential here," he said.

Mazda shed 2.37 percent of its value to 206 yen, while Mitsubishi Motors Corp. was off almost 3 percent at 262 yen.

The yen's strengthening against the dollar has in the recent past been a negative factor for auto shares, but analysts said it was becoming less important. They noted the dollar has regained half of its losses since Tuesday, when it swooned to three-month lows of 118.50 yen. *Reuters*

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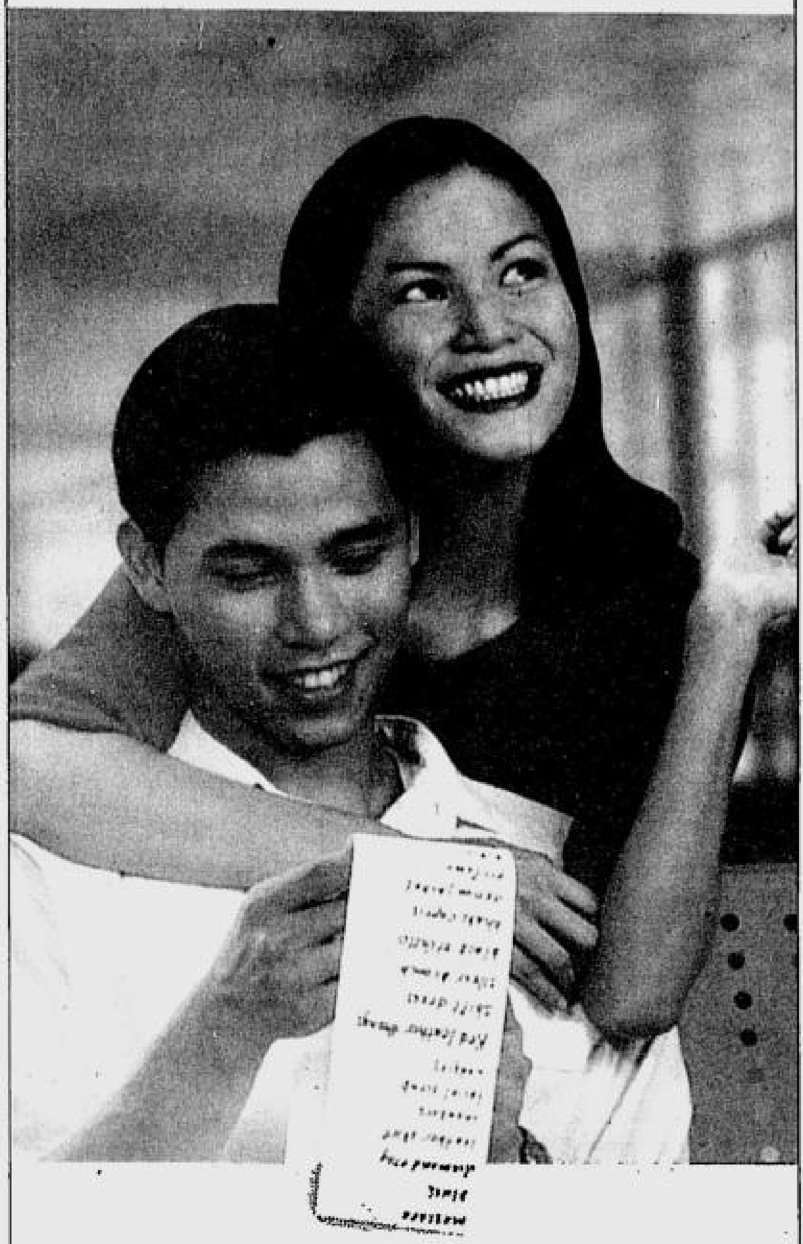

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July 20
Ronald Allan Flores
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July 23
Georgina M. Borcelis
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July 24
Rosario L. Manipol
From Imus, Cavite

July 25
Jocelyn Anitgua
From Cebu City

July 26
Francisco Peralta
From Quezon City

July 27
Louie D. Sebastian
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July 30
Marcela Lim
From Binondo, Manila

July 31
Thelma L. Cetron
From Makati City

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Evangeline Penequito
From Quezon City

August 3
Claudette Martires
From Quezon City

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Ermelinda V. Galon
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August 7
Rubena R. Laureta
From Parañaque City

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Ma. Judith Jala
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Notice is hereby given the loss of PCIBank Stock Cert. Nos. 2070, 5280 & 27224 w/ 320; 1000; & 3125 Shares issued on 24 Nov. 1983, 20 Jan 1987 & 30 April 1993, respectively under the name of Victoriano C. Raymundo. If no contest received, new certificate will be issued.
(PDI-Sept. 7,14 & 21,2001)

Stock Cert. #61493 for 1,300 shares issued by **SM PRIME** to Lawa, Inc. has been lost.
(PDI-Sept. 7, 14 & 21, 2001)

PERSONAL

PRAYER TO ST. JOSEPH
Oh, St. Joseph, whose protection is so great, so strong, so prompt before the throne of God. I place in you all my interest and desires. Oh, St. Joseph, do assist me by your powerful intercession, and obtain for me from your divine son all spiritual blessings, through Jesus Christ, our Lord. So that, having engaged here below your heavenly power, I may offer my thanksgiving and homage to the most loving of fathers. Oh, St. Joseph, I never weary contemplating you, and Jesus asleep in your arms; I dare not approach while He reposes near your heart. Press Him in my name and kiss His fine head for me and ask Him to return the Kiss when I draw my dying breath. St. Joseph, Patron of departing souls - Pray for me.
This prayer was found in the fiftieth year of Our Lord and Saviour Jesus Christ. In 1505 it was sent from the Pope to Emperor Charles when he was going into battle. Whoever shall read this prayer or hear it or keep it about themselves, shall never die a sudden death, or be drowned, nor shall poison take effect on them; neither shall they fall into the hands of the enemy, or shall be burned in any fire or shall be overpowered in battle.
Say for nine mornings for anything you may desire. It has never been known to fail so be sure you really want what you ask.

THANK YOU SACRED HEART OF JESUS AND IMMACULATE HEART OF MARY

THANK YOU HOLY SPIRIT

NOTICE TO THE PUBLIC

This is to inform the public that MR. **CELESTINO "BOBOT" RICARDO**, left our office last **February 12, 2001** and on the date he left, effectively he is no longer connected with **JEAC International Management and Contractor Services.**

Any transactions, claims and complaints to said person, JEAC International Management and Contractor Services have no liability to what transaction he has made.

MANAGEMENT

(PDI – Sept. 14, 2001)

ASIAN DEVELOPMENT BANK
P.O. Box 789 Manila, Philippines
6 ADB Avenue, Mandaluyong City, Philippines
Tel. 632-4217; Fax no. (632) 636-2567
Email: adjusupbekova@adb.org or fpalabrica@adb.org

INVITATION FOR PREQUALIFICATION TO BID FOR PROVISION OF IN-HOUSE MEDICAL AND/OR DENTAL SERVICES (ADB/OAS-2001/026)

1. The Asian Development Bank (ADB), a multilateral development finance institution headquartered in Manila, Philippines, invites interested companies to apply for prequalification to bid for the provision of in-house medical and/or dental services. The Contractor, under the supervision of ADB's Medical Doctor, shall provide the following services: (a) operation and maintenance of a medical and/or dental clinic (ADB Medical Center) inside ADB's premises, (b) provision of covered medical and/or dental services to ADB staff, including home visitations, (c) promotion of health awareness through seminars, workshops, or lectures to be held once a month with prior approval of ADB's Medical Doctor and (d) quarterly distribution of newsletters on relevant health issues.
2. The application for prequalification may be made for the provision of either medical services only, dental services only, or both medical and dental services.
3. Prequalification documents may be obtained from the Head, Contracts Section, General Services Division, Office of Administrative Services, Room 4223W, at the above address from 8:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m. on any working day starting from **17 to 21 September 2001,** upon presentation of the receipt of payment in cash or manager's check of a non-refundable fee of Pesos: Two Hundred (P200.00) at ADB Cash Room, Room G239W.
4. Last day for submission of application for prequalification is **27 September 2001.**
5. Only prequalified bidders shall be invited to participate in the bidding exercise to be conducted by ADB. Bid documents will be issued to prequalified bidders from **22 to 26 October 2001** upon payment of a non-refundable fee of Pesos: Three Hundred (P300.00) payable in cash or check to ADB.
6. This invitation does not entail any commitment on the part of ADB, either financial or otherwise. Any cost of preparation of prequalification documents shall be borne solely by the applicant. ADB reserves the right to accept or reject any or all applications for prequalification without incurring any liability or any obligation to inform the affected applicant/s of the grounds for ADB's action.

Chairman
Procurement Committee
Office of Administrative Services

(PDI – Sept. 13 & 14, 2001)

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I am
not
praying
for the
world,
but for
those
you
have
given
me, for
they are
yours.

John 17:9

REYNALDO T. VINOYA

Died at the age of 56 at the Makati Medical Center on September 12, 2001.

He is survived by **Pearl**; brothers and sisters **Jesus** and **Dorothy**, **Ernie** and **Olga**, **Odie** and **Susan**, **Marilou** and **Bobby Brodeth**, **Edmond** and **Marlyn** and **Fely Borbon**; nephews and nieces **Janice**, **Michael** and **Tina Michelle**, **Bryan** and **Bernadette**, **Beverly** and **Marvin (†)**.

His body lies in state at La Funeraria Paz,
G. Araneta Avenue, Quezon City.

Interment will be on Sunday, September 16, 2001,
9:00 a.m. at the Loyola Memorial Park, Marikina.

MESSAGE OF THANKS

The family of

Sister Felisa Lim, FMM

who joined her Creator on September 1, 2001

sincerely convey our deepest gratitude to all those who offered Masses and prayers, visited and attended the funeral rites, and condoled with us in our moment of grief.

"... absent with the body to be present with the Lord."

2 Corinthians 5:8

MESSAGE OF THANKS

We, the family of the late

AGAPITO G. TAGAYSAY

March 16, 1911 - September 4, 2001

Extend heartfelt thanks to all of you who comforted us by your presence at the wake, kept vigil, offered Holy Masses and prayers, sent messages of sympathy through cards and e-mail, made phone calls from abroad, gave flowers or gifts to Mother Teresa's "Tahanan" for the abandoned elderly.

We greatly appreciate the many words and gestures that conveyed to us how much you share our love, affection and admiration for "Daddy."

THANK YOU FOR CELEBRATING WITH US HIS ENTRY INTO ETERNAL LIFE.

Children: **Hector** and **Armine Antonio**, **Ma. Zona**, **Josefa**, **Carmelita** and **Reynaldo Geronimo**, **Cecilia**; grandchildren: **Patricia** and **Alfonso**, **Rachel** and **Sarah**; great granddaughter: **Ma. Angela**.

For the needs of your departed Loved Ones, the following establishments can help you.

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12 G. Araneta Avenue, Quezon City
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AUREA QUIOGUE FUNERAL HOMES
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1305 G. Araneta Avenue, Quezon City;
Tel. 732-0309; 732-1095
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Tels. (047) 222-3605; (047) 811-1086; (047) 222-4512; (047) 224-2014
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219 Gen. Luna St., Concepcion, Malabon, Metro Manila
Tels. 2812963; 2813034; 2810522
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East Greenhills, Mandaluyong City; Telefax 724-4139; 725-2044
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OBITUARY REQUIREMENTS: ❶ Copy of Death Certificate ❷ Any identification document (I.D.)

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Republic of the Philippines
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Tel. No. 221-9400 (connecting all departments)
Tel. Nos. 221-62-18 to 19 (Regional Training Center, Madapo Hill, Davao City)
Fax: (82) 2264885

INVITATION TO PRE-QUALIFY/APPLY FOR ELIGIBILITY AND TO BID

Notice is hereby given to all interested contractors under PCAB Category Medium A General Engineering and General Building for the proposed construction of the following projects, to wit:

1. R.C. Ground Reservoir - 1,500 cu.m. at Sitio Mahayahay Barangay Tugbok, this city.
   APPROVED BUDGET FOR THE CONTRACT - Php 5,011,287.48
2. R.C. Ground Reservoir - 680 cu.m., Cyclone Fence, Site Grading Development and Drainage System at Barangay Bangkas Heights, Toril District, this city.
   APPROVED BUDGET FOR THE CONTRACT - Php 2,557,822.14

(Above projects are under our Phase 3 Stage 1 Project)

Pre-C/Eligibility requirements are available at the DCWD BAC-B office starting October 1 to 5, 2001 during business hours.

Deadline of submission of Pre-C/Eligibility Forms	Oct. 12, 2001
Issuance of Plans	Oct. 19 - Nov. 6, 2001
Pre-bid Conference	Nov. 8, 2001, 3 p.m. DCWD Board Room
Opening of Bids	Nov. 15, 2001, 3 p.m. DCWD Board Room

DCWD reserves the right to reject any or all bids, to waive any formality/informality of the bids received and to accept only such bids which are advantageous to the District.

(Sgd.) **ENGR. EDWIN V. REGALADO**
DCWD BAC-B Chairman

(PDI--Sept. 14, 17 & 20, 2001)

Republic of the Philippines
DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE
Office of the Secretary
Elliptical Road, Diliman, Quezon City, 1100 Philippines

INVITATION TO PREQUALIFY AND TO BID

The Department of Agriculture/Bureau of Fisheries and Aquatic Resources (DA/BFAR) invites eligible Boat Builders/Manufacturers to prequalify and to bid for the construction and delivery of 30 units 27-footer Patrol Boats made of Fiberglass Reinforce Plastic (FRP) bull, a project under the Bantay Dagat Program, RP-Japan Increased Food Production Program (KR II).

A Two-Envelope System or the Single Stage Bidding Variations shall be adapted which requires bidders to submit their Technical and Financial Proposals separately in two sealed envelopes. The Technical Proposal shall be opened first and evaluated to determine their conformity with the Technical requirements. Bidders shall be evaluated based on the compliance of the pre-qualification requirements and Technical Proposal.

Only the Financial Envelopes of the Technically compliant Bidders shall be opened and evaluated further. Financial Envelope of non-compliant bidder shall be returned unopened.

Interested Parties can obtain the pre-qualification requirements at the Office of the Bids and Awards Committee Secretariat at the 7th Floor Arcadia Bldg., 860 Quezon Avenue, Quezon City from September 17 to 19, 2001.

Deadline for submission of two (2) copies of pre-qualification documents will be on September 26 to 28, 2001.

Bidding document will be made available only to pre-qualified bidder, upon presentation of the Notice of pre-qualification on October 15 - 17, 2001 and upon payment of non-refundable amount of P1,000.00.

Pre-bid Conference will be on October 22, 2001 at the BFAR Conference Room, Arcadia Bldg., 860 Quezon Avenue, Quezon City at 2:00 PM.

Submission of Technical and Financial Proposals (4 copies each) will be on November 5, 2001 at 1:00 to 1:45 PM at the BFAR Conference Room.

Opening of Technical Proposal will be on November 5, 2001 at 2:00 PM.

Failure to comply with the requirements shall be the immediate ground for disqualification.

For local bidders, only duly Licensed and MARINA Accredited Shipbuilders/ Contractors are qualified to participate while for foreign Shipbuilders/ Contractors, they must have local counterparts engaged in shipbuilding in the Philippines.

DA/BFAR reserves the right to reject any or all bids, waive any defect or informality therein, accept the bid and award the contract to the winning bidder with the most advantageous offer to DA/BFAR. The DA/BFAR assumes no responsibility to compensate or indemnify the bidder for any expense or loss that may be incurred for the preparation of bids, nor does not guarantee that an award will be made.

(Sgd.) **CESAR M. DRILON, JR.**
Undersecretary & Chairman, DA/BFAR PBAC

(PDI--Sept. 14, 2001)

INQUIRER CLASSIFIEDS

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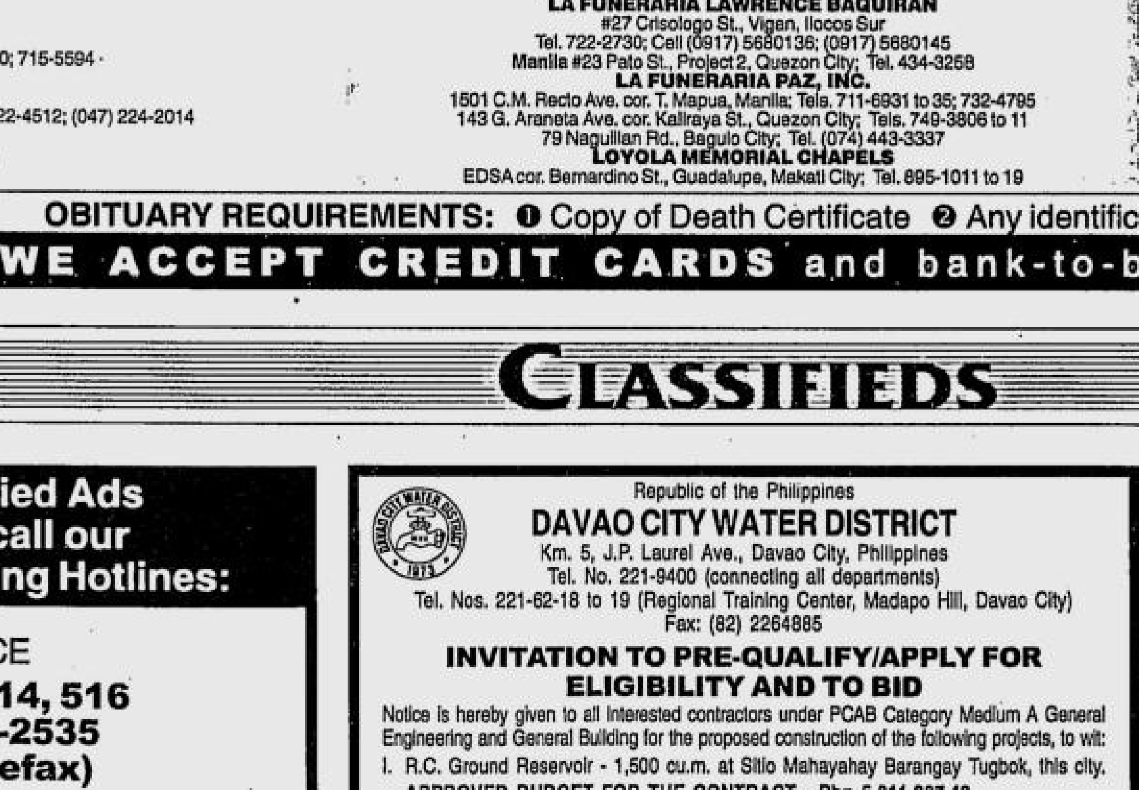


Republic of the Philippines

DEPARTMENT OF ENERGY

DEPARTMENT CIRCULAR NO. 2001-09-003

OCTANE POSTING AT THE PUMP

FOR : ALL COMPANIES
: ALL GASOLINE DEALERS AND RETAIL OUTLETS
: ALL CONCERNED

WHEREAS, Republic Act No. 8479, otherwise known as the "Downstream Oil Industry Deregulation Act of 1998", provides for the deregulation of the downstream oil industry to foster a truly competitive market which can better achieve the social policy objectives of fair prices, adequate and continuous supply of environmentally clean and high quality petroleum products;

WHEREAS, as a result of the lead phase-out program and pursuant to Republic Act 8749 or the "Philippine Clean Air Act" which prohibits the sale and use of leaded gasoline not later than eighteen (18) months from its enactment, various brands and grades of unleaded gasoline (ULG) have been introduced in the market at different prices creating confusion among consumers;

WHEREAS, the octane rating or number of gasoline is commonly used for differentiation of various grades in most countries;

WHEREAS, the Philippine National Standard for Unleaded Gasoline requires a minimum octane rating for each gasoline grade;

WHEREAS, the reflection of the octane ratings at the pump level will readily apprise the consumers on the quality of gasoline they are buying, thereby relating it to the price they are paying;

NOW, THEREFORE, upon effectivity of this Circular, all dealers/operators of gasoline stations shall be required to display the octane rating, in terms of Research Octane Number (RON) as part of the gasoline label at the pumps sold in their establishment through a "sticker" with the specifications below.

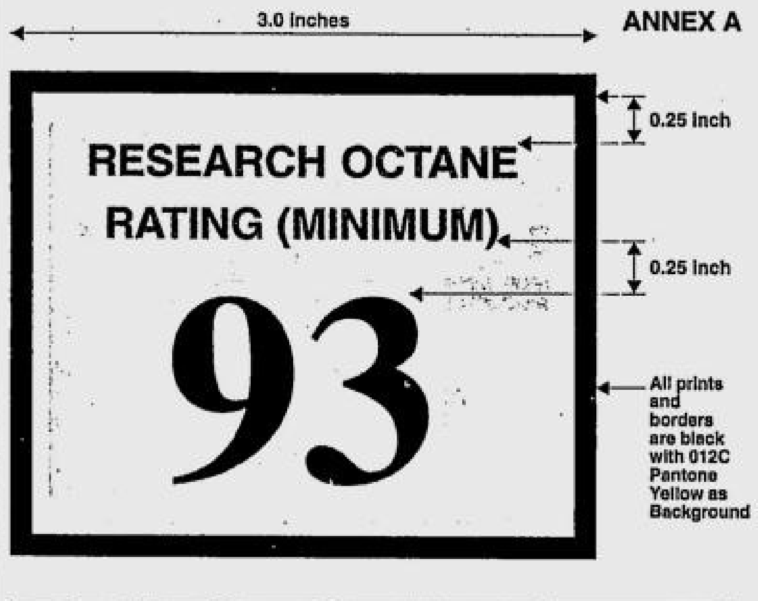
1) **Layout.** The label is 3 inches wide and 2½ inches long. Spacing of the label is ¼ inch between the top border and the first line of text, ⅛ inch between the first and second line of text, ¼ inch between the octane rating and the line of text above it. All text and numerals are centered within the interior borders;
2) **Type size and setting.** The Helvetica series is used for all letters at font 16, bold and all capital, while the octane number in Franklin gothic at font 96 condensed with ¼ inch space between the numbers;
3) **Colors.** The basic color (background) on all labels is 012C Pantone yellow. All prints and borders are black;
4) **Contents.** The contents are shown in the illustration (annex A). The PNS RON for each gasoline grade must be shown. No marks or information other than that called for by this rule may appear on the label; and
5) **Special label protection.** All labels must be resistant to gasoline, oil, grease, solvents, detergents, water, etc. and must be capable of withstanding extreme weather conditions so that the entries in the sticker are clearly readable at all times. The label should be replaced immediately in the event it is substantially defaced, soiled, torn-off, or otherwise destroyed.

This Department Circular shall take effect fifteen (15) days after its complete publication in a newspaper of general circulation. Full compliance to this Circular shall not be later than January 1, 2002. Failure to comply with this directive shall subject the violator to corresponding administrative sanctions as may be imposed by the Department.

Fort Bonifacio, Taguig, Metro Manila, 10 September 2001

VICENTE S. PEREZ
Secretary of Energy

ANNEX A


3.0 Inches
RESEARCH OCTANE
RATING (MINIMUM)
93
0.25 Inch
0.25 Inch
All prints and borders are black with 012C Pantone Yellow as Background

SPECIAL LABEL PROTECTION:
All labels must be resistant to gasoline, oil, grease, solvent, detergents, and water and must be capable of withstanding extreme weather conditions so that all entries in the sticker are clearly readable at all times.

OFFICE OF THE PRESIDENT

NATIONAL HOUSING AUTHORITY

NOTICE OF DISPOSITION

Ninth Offering

The National Housing Authority (NHA) is accepting bids for the sale of the ninety four (94) residential lots in Monterrazas Village, Bgy. Tuding, Itogon, Benguet with areas ranging from 283 to 901 square meters and base prices ranging from P350.00 to P4,500.00 per square meter under credit terms.

Interested parties may secure the bid documents for a non-refundable fee of P200.00 from the NHA Project Office located at the D'Castellamonte Building, #12 Otek Street, Baguio City.

SCHEDULE: The submission of Pre-qualification requirements will be received during office hours from **14 September 2001** to **04 October 2001**. A pre-bid conference will be held on **27 September 2001** at 2:00 PM. Sealed offers will be received from 8:00 AM to 12:00 Noon of **04 October 2001** which will be opened at 2:00 PM of the same day. All transactions will be held/entertained at the NHA Baguio Project Office.

The NHA reserves the right to reject any or all bids, call off this tender prior to bid acceptance and call for new tender under amended rules, as may be deemed advantageous to the government.

(Sgd.) **EDGARDO D. PAMINTUAN**
General Manager

(PDI – Sept. 14 & 18, 2001)

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Republic of the Philippines
Municipality of Pudtol
Province of Apayao

Invitation to Bid

ITB No. PNRC - 01-02

September 14, 2001

To: **All Eligible Contractors,**

The Republic of the Philippines has received a loan from the Japan Bank for International Cooperation (JBIC) towards the financing of the cost of Third Elementary Education Project (TEEP) and intends to apply part of the proceeds of the loan to cover eligible payments for the construction/repair of classrooms.

This invitation is open to all contractors from eligible source countries as defined in the *Guidelines for Procurement under JBIC Loans and IDA Credits.* The Municipal Government of Pudtol, Apayao and its implementing partner, DECS, in the implementation of the School Building Program (SBP) component of TEEP invites sealed offers/quotations from eligible contractors for the Construction of One (1) unit - One (1) Classroom TEEP School Building, Repair of One (1) unit - Two (2) Classroom School Building and One (1) unit - One (1) Classroom School Building in Malibang E/S; Const. of One (1) Unit - One (1) Classroom TEEP School Building and repair of One (1) unit - One (1) Classroom School Building in Cacalagan ES; Repair of One (1) unit - Six (6) Classroom School Building; Repair of One (1) unit - Three (3) Classroom School Building and Repair of One (1) unit - One (1) Classroom School Building in Capannikian ES; Repair of One (1) unit - Three (3) Classroom School Building and One (1) unit - Three (3) classroom Marcos Pre-fab School Building in Cabatacan ES; Construction of One (1) unit - Two (2) Classroom TEEP School Building in Pudtol ES located in the Municipality of Pudtol, Apayao.

Bid documents may be purchased at the Office of the Municipal Engineer, Pudtol, Apayao for a nonrefundable fee of P2,000.00 pesos on **September 14, 2001**. Pre-Bid Conference shall be held at the Municipal Executive Building at 10:00 a.m., **September 24, 2001** at Pudtol, Apayao. Interested contractors may obtain further information at the same address.

Offers or quotations shall be valid for a period of 100 days after opening of quotations and must be accompanied by a bid security of Two-and-one-half (2-1/2%) percent of total quoted price, and shall be delivered to the Chairperson Pre/post-qualification, Bids and Awards Committee (PBAC), Municipality of Pudtol, Province of Apayao on or before 10:00 a.m., October 9, 2001.

The Committee reserves the right to accept or reject any or all bids which may be found disadvantageous to the government.

Very truly yours,

Hon. JOHNNY U. ILAYAT
Chairperson
Pre/post-qualification, Bids and Awards Committee
Municipality of Pudtol, Apayao

(PDI--Sept 14, 2001)

NATIONAL FOOD AUTHORITY

Quezon City

INVITATION TO PRE-QUALIFY AND TO BID

The **NATIONAL FOOD AUTHORITY (NFA)** invites authorized distributors/dealers to participate in the rebidding for the supply and delivery of the following laboratory and pest control equipment:

Lot 1 - 8 units Laboratory Testing Mill
8 units Laboratory Huller
Lot 3 - 28 units Power Sprayer

The schedule of bidding activities is as follows:

September 18-20, 2001 - Issuance of List of Pre-qualification Requirements
September 27, 2001 - Deadline of submission of Pre-qualification Documents
October 3-4, 2001 - Issuance of bid documents
October 5, 2001 (10:00 AM) - Pre-bidding conference
October 12, 2001 (9:15-10:00 AM) - Submission of bid proposals
(10:15 AM) Opening of bid proposals

Those who were previously pre-qualified during the bidding held last August 31, 2001 are automatically qualified to participate in the rebidding. Pre-qualification forms and requirements can be secured from and submitted to PBAC Secretariat, ODAFA, 7th Floor, Matimyas Building, 101 E. Rodriguez Sr. Avenue, Quezon City. Bidding documents may likewise be secured from PBAC Secretariat and the same shall be issued to pre-qualified bidders upon payment of P2,000.00 non-refundable fee.

NFA RESERVES THE RIGHT TO REJECT ANY OR ALL BIDS, TO WAIVE ANY FORMALITY/INFORMALITY OF THE BIDS RECEIVED AND TO ACCEPT ONLY SUCH BIDS WHICH ARE ADVANTAGEOUS TO THE NATIONAL FOOD AUTHORITY.

(Sgd.) **EDGAR S. ASUNCION**
Deputy Administrator and
Chairman, PBAC

(PDI – Sept. 14 & 17, 2001)

Republic of the Philippines

DAVAO CITY WATER DISTRICT

Km. 5 J.P. Laurel Ave., Davao City, Philippines
Tel. No. 221-9400 (connecting all departments)
Tel. Nos. 221-62-18 to 19 (Regional Training Center, Madapo Hill, Davao City)
Fax: (82) 2264885

(SECOND)

INVITATION TO PRE-QUALIFY/APPLY FOR ELIGIBILITY AND TO BID

All interested contractors with category PCAB, D and above, and IAC Special Classification or Well Drilling or Water Supply are invited to participate in the bidding for the **EXPLORATORY/WELL DRILLING OF THREE (3) PRODUCTION WELLS,** using Rotary Method, here in Davao City.

The Approved Budget for the Contract (ABC) of each well, and its location are as follows:

1) Alambre, Lubogan Well	Php 3,527,956.96
2) New Loon, Mintal Well	Php 3,046,942.78
3) Malagos Well (near DCWD Reservoir)	Php 3,553,244.42

PRE-C eligibility requirements are available at the DCWD BAC-B office starting **October 1 to 5, 2001** during business hours. Deadline for the submission of Pre-C documents will be on or before **October 12, 2001**. Issuance of plans will be from **October 19** to **November 6, 2001**. Pre-bid Conference is scheduled on **November 9, 2001**. Opening of bids will be on **November 16, 2001**, 3 p.m. at the DCWD Board Room.

DCWD reserves the right to reject any or all bids, to waive any formality/informality of the bids received and to accept only such bids which are advantageous to the District.

(Sgd.) **ENGR. EDWIN V. REGALADO**
DCWD BAC-B Chairman

(PDI – Sept. 14, 17 & 20, 2001)

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AUSTRALIA & NEW ZEALAND SEMINAR DETAILS

MANILA

DATE : September 15, 2001 (Saturday) 2:00 P.M.
VENUE : PHIL. TRADE TRAINING CENTER Cor. Roxas Blvd., Pasay City
TEL. NO. : 891-5686 to 89 / 891-5920 to 21
FEES : P 700 PREPAID / P 900 WALK-IN

LEGAZPI

DATE : September 18, 2001 (Tuesday) 3:00 P.M.
VENUE : HOTEL LA TRINIDAD, Rizal St., Legazpi City 4500
TEL. NO. : (052) 820- 6168 // 480-3946 // 245-5641 // (0918) 910-2994
FEES : P 700 PREPAID / P 900 WALK-IN

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Registered Migration Agent No. 9579222

- Former Senior Migration Officer of Australian Embassy in Manila
- 15 years in Australian Migration Practice
- Experienced New Zealand Immigration specialist

FOR MORE INFORMATION, PLEASE CALL OR VISIT US @

IMMIGRATION NETWORK SERVICES, INC.
Room 402-B Vicente Madrigal Bldg., 6793 Ayala Ave.,
Makati City Tel. Nos.: 891-5686 to 89 / 891-5920 to 21
ins@qinet.net * http://www.ins-global.com

NOTICE TO THE PUBLIC

This is to inform the public that one (1) booklet of official receipts of DOXO INGREDIENTS, INC. with address at 168 D. Tuazon Street corner N.S. Amoranto Street, Quezon City, has been lost as of September 8, 2001. Said booklet contains the Company's copy of those validly issued official receipts with Serial Nos. 10701 to 10744, which will continue to be honored. However, the same booklet lost also contains those unissued official receipts with Serial Nos. 10745 to 10750. Accordingly, the public is hereby warned that said unissued official receipts are no longer valid, and any payments made, evidenced only by those lost official receipts with Serial Nos. 10745 to 10750, will not be honored by the Company.

(PDI--Sept. 14, 2001)

Republic of the Philippines

ENERGY REGULATORY COMMISSION

Pacific Center Building, San Miguel Avenue
Ortigas Center, Pasig City

INVITATION TO APPLY FOR ELIGIBILITY AND TO BID

The Energy Regulatory Commission (ERC) invites all interested parties for the supply, delivery and warranty of the following items, to wit:

PRIORITY LOT	QTY.	ITEM DESCRIPTION/TECHNICAL SPECIFICIATIONS
A	5	Workstations
	60	Personal computers
	10	Dot-matrix printers
		Network Accessories (Hubs, Switches, UTP cable CAT 5 (in rolls) RJ-45 connectors)
B	1	Portable LCD Projector

For more information visit http://www.procurementservice.org and http://www.erb.gov.ph or look for Mr. Toto Arbalate at 631-7287 for the specifications of workstations, personal computers and networking accessories.

Interested parties may secure Eligibility statement forms and Request for Proposal (RFP) at the Supply Section, Administrative Division, ERC 14th Floor, Pacific Center Bldg., San Miguel Avenue, Ortigas Complex, Pasig City starting on **September 17, 2001**.

The ERC will accept Eligibility statement forms and Bidding documents beginning **October 1, 2001** starting at 10:00 a.m. and bids will be opened at 2:00 p.m. same day.

(Sgd.) **ATTY. ARNIDO O. INUMERABLE**
Executive Director
Chairman, Bids and Awards Committee for ITR

(PDI - Sept. 13 & 14, 2001)

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undp

PHILIPPINES

INVITATION TO APPLY FOR ELIGIBILITY AND TO BID

Contracting of Consulting Services for the Project

"Enhancing the Public Accountability Programme of the Philippine Commission on Audit: Government-Wide and Sectoral Performance/VFM Audit" (PHI/97/022)

The Development Support Services Center (DSSC) of the United Nations Development Program (UNDP) invites local and international consultants to apply for eligibility and to bid for the "Enhancing the Public Accountability Programme of the Philippine Commission on Audit: Government-Wide and Sectoral Performance/VFM Audit" (PHI/97/022).

This project is under the auspices of the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP) with contribution from the Government of Australia. It aims to provide assistance to the Philippine Commission on Audit (COA) in its effort to enhance its capability to undertake government-wide and sectoral performance/value for money (VFM) audit.

The project requires the services of a consulting firm to conduct a comprehensive review of existing policies on VFM and the manner in which this approach is currently being implemented. The services will also include developing and/or introducing amendments to existing audit policies, guidelines and strategies.

Bid Documents (Requirements for Eligibility, Instructions to Bidders and Terms of Reference) may be secured personally or electronically, upon official inquiry/request from interested parties, from the following address:

Development Support Services Center
United Nations Development Programme
7th Floor NEDA sa Makati Building
106 Amorsolo Street, Legaspi Village, Makati City (via courier)
Tel. No. (632) 892 06 11 loc. 275
Fax No. (632) 816 40 61
E-mail address: bc_admin.ph@undp.org

The abovementioned Bid Documents will be released to all interested parties starting **September 15, 2001 to September 22, 2001** only. The Bid Documents shall contain all instructions on the rules, procedures, bid opening dates and other schedules.

UNDP reserves the right to reject any or all bids, waive any defect or informality therein, accept the bid and award the contract to the most advantageous offer to the UNDP, for an in behalf of the Commission on Audit. UNDP assumes no responsibility to compensate or indemnify the bidder for any expense or loss that may be incurred for the preparation of bids, nor does it guarantee that an award will be made.

(Sgd.) **ETHELIND B. CAPUNO**
Manager, DSSC

(PDI – Sept. 14 & 15, 2001)

People, Events & Products

ARIES B. ESPINOSA, Assistant Editor
aespinosa@inquirer.com.ph

Carrier expands applied, commercial systems business

CONCEPCION-CARRIER Air Conditioning Company (CCAC), the Philippines leading manufacturer and distributor of air conditioners has in the past three years significantly expanded its Applied and Commercial Systems business with the award of several prestige projects.

The new Insular Life Corporate Center, GMA Network Center, SM Pampanga, S&R Pricesmart, Waltermart, Philips Semiconductors, Toshiba Information Equipment Phils., and Rohm Apollo Semiconductor Phils. Inc. are just some of the large scale air conditioning projects that CCAC's Applied and Commercial Systems group have supplied. Ongoing projects include AyalaPort Makati Internet Data Center of the Ayala Group, Globe Telecom and Sankyo Seiki Subic.

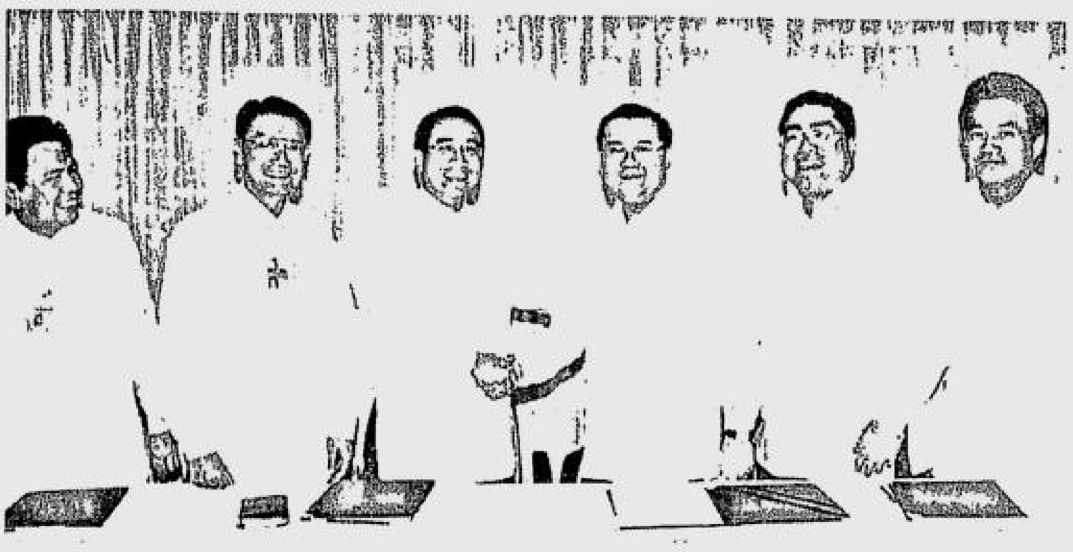
Applied and Commercial Systems' lines include: a complete line of chlorine-free water chillers from the 19XR Evergreen centrifugal chillers, air-cooled and water cooled screw chillers with ComfortLink controls; a diverse line of air handling units for clean room, industrial and commercial applications; fan coil units; VAV terminals and direct digital controls (DDC) and large capacity direct expansion split systems. Water chillers are used mainly in centralized air conditioning systems for large office buildings, factories, malls and clean rooms.

The 19XR Evergreen centrifugal chiller uses chlorine-free refrigerant, HFC-134a, which does not contribute to the thinning of the ozone layer. It is also energy efficient, capable of delivering competitive input power per ton of refrigeration. Chiller controls are compatible with many intelligent building management systems (BMS).

After-sales service and parts support is provided on a 24-hour-a-day, 7-day-a-week basis through a dedicated team of factory field service engineers and an extensive parts inventory valued in excess of $2 million. The Customer Care Call Center is available round the clock, year round for service calls and parts and sales inquiries.

Concepcion Carrier Air Conditioning Company is a joint venture between US-based Carrier Corp. and Concepcion Industries Inc. (Philippines). Concepcion Industries Inc. (CII) is a Philippine market leader in appliance manufacturing and distribution. The Far Eastern Economic Review cited CII as one of Asia's leading companies. Carrier Corp. is a part of United Technologies Corp. (UTC), a Fortune Global 200 Company. UTC is a $26-billion company that provides high technology products to the aerospace and building systems industries throughout the world. Other UTC companies include Pratt & Whitney (aircraft engines), Otis Elevators (escalators and people movers), Sikorsky Helicopters, Hamilton Sunstrand (aerospace and industrial products) and International Fuel Cells (power systems). UTC's shares are traded on the New York Stock Exchange under the ticker symbol UTX and is a component of the Dow Jones Industrial Average (DJIA).

To learn more about these products and prestige projects, visit www.carrier.com.ph.



METROBANK ACCEPTS FIRST UNION PREMIUM PAYMENTS

Metrobank recently entered into a payment collection agreement with First Union Plans, a local pre-need company. Under the agreement, First Union planholders working or living in Hong Kong may now pay their pre-need premiums through any of the branches of Metrobank's wholly owned deposit-taking company First Metro International Investment Corp. (FMIIC) and subsidiary MB Remittance Center Ltd. in Hong Kong. Shown are (from left) Metrobank assistant vice president Juanito Liwanag, senior executive vice president Angelito Villanueva, First Metro Investment Corp. (FMIC) president Francis Sebastian, First Union chair Edwin Bautista, president and general manager Lorenzo Villamor, and director Teodoro Panganiban after the agreement signing. FMIIC and MB Remittance have a combined network of nine branches, all of which are centrally located and easily accessible.

ECOPARK TREE MUSEUM PROJECT

Acting Mayor Jun Bernabe, one of the principal sponsors of the Ecopark Tree Museum Project of the senior citizens group (SCG) of Tahanan Village, Parañaque City, is shown being thanked by SCG founding chair Carlos Natividad for his sponsorship of the Tree Museum Project. The other project sponsors and tree donors in the picture are Cezar Pacheco, Baby Vale, Onie Sy, Flor Umali, Manolo Sy, Suzette Pido, Nestor Vasay, Joe Vale and Romy Gapit. To be planted in the museum site are rare species of endemic hardwood trees and exotic flowering and fruit bearing trees.

World's top franchisors at WTC

THE MAJOR players in the franchising capitals of Europe, North America, Australia and Southeast Asia are in the Philippines to join Asia's biggest international franchise expo at the World Trade Center in Metro Manila from today to Sept. 16.

The expo, dubbed Franchise Asia 2001, aims to further expand the global franchising industry to the region's unsaturated market of 3.8 billion people, with the Philippines as the entry point.

That 3.8-billion market is by far the largest in the world, whose some 15,000 franchise companies generate a total of $1.4 trillion in sales and 12 million jobs.

The Philippines alone boasts of an 80-million market, 64 percent of which are 29 years old and below. This highly active market is being served by only 500 franchises, and around 60 percent are foreign.

Eyeing a piece of the action in this huge Asian market are franchisors from the United States, Canada and Australia, which will set up international pavilions at the expo.

Within the expo hall will be held various other events like seminars, workshops, product launches, marketing competitions, franchise excellence awards, and "national days" highlighting a particular country each time.

The other participating countries are United Kingdom, France, Singapore, Malaysia and Taiwan.

The exhibitors are both foreign and local franchises, which include Bayo, Bioessence Facial and Skin Care, Kublai Khan's Eat All U Can, Mister Donut, Padi's Point, Rice Mix Food Corner, Pilipinas Shell, Midas Autoservice Center, Metropole Laundry, and Orbitz Pearl Shake, among others.

"Locally, over 70 companies have reserved for over 100 booths, 42 percent of which are food franchises and 58 percent non-food. All these will comprise over 300 franchise concepts in Asia's biggest franchise event," said expo overall chair Bing Limjoco.

But whether in Southeast Asia, Europe or the United States, companies engaged in franchising generate profitable business with greater success than non-franchises, according to Samie Lim, chair of the Asia-Pacific Franchise Confederation, whose members are the franchise associations of Indonesia, Brunei, New Zealand, Australia, Hong Kong, Japan, Korea, Malaysia, Singapore and the Philippines.

Other details can be obtained from exhibit manager Worldexco (891-8635, fax 834-0608, e-mail wdx@info.com.ph, website www.worldexco.com).

In the Philippines, franchising emerges as the only business sector experiencing phenomenal growth over the years, from only 50 franchises in the early '90s to more than 500 at present.

THAI SPONSORS TOUR TO BANGKOK, CHIANG MAI

Thai Airways International, in cooperation with Thailand Incentive and Convention Association and the Tourism Authority of Thailand, recently brought Filipino corporate VIPs to Bangkok and Chiang Mai to sample the unique way of life in two of Thailand's most popular destination. Shown in colorful traditional Thai costumes are (standing from left) Adrian Lizares of Philippine Daily Inquirer, Jojo Manlangit of Petron Corp., Eric Guevarra of Johnson and Johnson (Philippines) Inc., Ernie Tan of Nestle Phil. Inc. and Hermie Limbo of Kodak Phil.; (seated, from left) Malu Dueñas of Thai Airways, Dada Jordan of Cocochem, Myrna Mercado of Pharmacia and Upjohn, Liza Bueno of Nalco Chemical Co. (Phils.) Inc. and Aileen Marie Lopez of ABS-CBN.

MAKING OF A MUNICI
SEMINAR
ROXAS - CO-CHAIRMAN PREFERRED VENTURES
PARDO - DIR.. BUREAU
G. TIRONA - PRES. /

CAGAYAN DE ORO MUNICIPAL BOND SEMINAR

The Financial Executives Institute of the Philippines (Finex) through its LGU Committee recently held a seminar on 'The Making of a Municipal Bond' at Grand Caprice, Limketkai Center, Cagayan de Oro City. The seminar was co-sponsored by USAid-Agile. Shown are (seated, from left) Mercedes B. Suleik, Finex director; speaker Jesus G. Tirona, president and CEO, LGU Guarantee Corp.; speaker Erlito R. Pardo, director, policy enforcement service, Bureau of Local Government Finance, Department of Finance; speaker Victor P. dela Dingco, president, Centerbank; Marriz Manuel B. Agbon, president, Finex-Cagayan and Napoleon de Sagun, senior program management specialist, USAid; (standing from left) Raymund C. Fabre, local government task manager, USAid-Agile; Christopher Mariano, vice president-external, Finex-Cagayan; Mario M. Calixto, vice president of Finex-Cagayan and Patrick Bryan E. Absin, chair, Finex-Cagayan, professional development committee.

TOBY'S AWARDS CABANATUAN FRANCHISE

Toby's Sports has added another franchise to its growing retail chain. The Cabanatuan City store will open in October at the NE Pacific Mall. Shown signing the franchise agreement are (from left) Mary Joy Montanano, Toby's franchise manager; Roberto S. Claudio, chair of the Toby's Group of Companies; Angelito and Lilian Lim, the new franchisees. Toby's Cabanatuan expands the retail chain to 24 stores nationwide.

BITS & Clips

British Council music exam

THE BRITISH Council recently announced that the Association Board of the Royal Schools of Music has set exam dates for the Philippines. This year, Theory Exams for all levels will be conducted on Oct. 27 and Practical Exams will be conducted on Dec. 3 to 7. These examinations are undertaken by over 550,000 candidates each year in over 80 countries throughout the world. Deadline for exam entry application is on Sept. 14 (Theory Exams) and Sept 28 (Practical Exams). Forms and exam syllabuses are available at The British Council Information Center at the Ground Floor of Taipan Place along Emerald Avenue, Ortigas. For further details, call Beng Iglesia or Dianne Siozon at 914-1011-14 or e-mail Dianne.Siozon@britishcouncil.org.ph.

Hope for healing marriages

COUPLES who desire to make their marriage work amidst extreme stresses can find help in Retrouvaille. The program provides an environment of hope and a healing process. Three team couples and a priest share their lived experiences of pain and misery, reconciling and healing. Confidentiality is assured throughout the process. Retrovaille will hold a weekend on Sept. 14 to 16 at the Saidi Formation Center, Taktak Drive, Antipolo, Rizal. To inquire, call Tom and Ruby 931-8413; Ike and Flor 718-0689; Mar and Armi 825-2605 and Fr. Dave Clay 523-3361 and cell 0918-902-0511.

QTA 78th year

THE QUEZON (Tayabas) Association Inc. will celebrate 78 years of public service with the holding of its annual anniversary ball on Saturday, Sept. 15 at the Westin Philippine Plaza Grand Ballroom. Presidents Rudy Buendia and Dinah Brizuela lead this socio-civic organization which is at the forefront of implementing programs and projects for the welfare and betterment of the less fortunate people of Quezon Province. The traditional *rigodon de honor* participated in by the officers and members of QTA Inc. Special production numbers, the Mambo and the Samba will follow. Program hosts are Dean Benilda Villenas and Dr. James Buzar of Enverga University at Lucena City.

THE FUTURE OF ENGINEERING

Philips Semiconductors-Calamba (PSC) general manager Doug Sampson (center, with tie) stands beside Mapua Tech vice president for student affairs Cherry Chan as they congratulate the student recipients of the PSC Scholarship. 60 students from the University of the Sto. Tomas, University of La Salle-Bacolod and Mapua Tech received scholarships from Philips. The program aims to further uplift the competence of Filipino engineers in order to improve the country's competitiveness in the global semiconductor market. Also shown are Mapua technical assistant Shermy Pacio (fifth from right) and PSC personnel manager Polly Dorado (fourth from right).

Php 1,000,000,000 Syndicated Term Loan Facility
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lesale Lending Program
Ceremony
Citibank
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SMART SIGNS P1-B LOAN AGREEMENT

Wireless services leader Smart Communications Inc. has recently signed a P1-billion syndicated term loan facility to help finance Phase 5 of its GSM network expansion. Arranged by Citicorp Capital Philippines Inc., the loan facility will enable Smart to accelerate the expansion of its nationwide digital cellular network to meet the requirements of its rapidly growing subscriber base. Shown is Smart CEO and president Napoleon L. Nazareno (sixth from left) with (from left) Willie Ng, first vice president, Asia United Bank (AUB); Victor Lim, executive vice president, AUB; Samuel Yap, senior executive vice president, Metrobank; Peter Lawrence, Smart chief financial advisor; Peter B. Eliot, vice president, Citibank; Raissa Hechanova-Posadas, director and vice chair, Citicorp Capital Philippines Inc.; Cynthia Macaraeg, first vice president, Development Bank of the Philippines; Masaaki Seki, general manager, Fuji Bank (FB) Limited; Morihiko Shimizu, vice president and manager, FB Ltd.

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BUSINESS *Friday*
MARGIE QUIMPO-ESPINO, Business Features Editor

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RP firms ready to invade franchising world

BY TINA ARCEO-DUMLAO

FOR decades now, the Philippines has been a very profitable market for American and other foreign franchises such as McDonald's, TGIFriday's and Kentucky Fried Chicken.

Recognized franchising expert Donald D. Boroian, chief executive officer of Francorp Inc., however, believes that it is high time that Filipino firms do the same and make their mark in foreign markets.

Boroian, who developed the successful franchising program of fastfood giant Jollibee Foods Corp., says in an interview that many Filipino firms are even "overripe" for international expansion.

Many firms have already expanded overseas such as Jollibee, Goldilocks and Max but Baroian says other Filipino firms can follow suit, especially since the systems and operations of these firms have already been tried and tested in the big and competitive Filipino market.

He identified some of these potential firms as retailers Bench, Penshoppe, Kamiseta, Bayo, water distributor Crystal Clear, Kameraworld and restaurant Josephine Seafood.

"The idea for international expansion now is to partner with just one company in certain countries that will put up multiple outlets under the franchising scheme.

"This is different from the usual franchising scheme within countries wherein there is one owner for one franchised outlet," Baroian says.

Criteria for expansion

Filipino firms that can be franchised overseas have many similar characteristics, one of which was the sophistication of operating systems.

Baroian stresses that it is not enough to just have a good concept or idea. What is important is to have an efficient front and backroom operation to ensure that the quality of the product or service can be duplicated across countries.

"When we looked at Jollibee for example in 1977, it was the concept that attracted us and not so much the product. We saw even then that Jollibee had developed a system of processing food and of attracting customers that was very much in place. All of these elements were obvious so we saw that it can be franchised," Baroian says.

Franchising refers to the expansion strategy where a company authorizes another firm to sell its goods or services. The franchisor provides the training, the business model and the products while the franchisee puts up the capital and the operating expenses.

Companies that have the potential to do well overseas must also have products or services that would cater to markets in different countries. The application should not be too local.

Retail firms that sell to Filipino teenagers, for instance, should have products that can also appeal to teenagers in the United States, Canada, Europe and Asia.

Baroian also stresses that Filipino firms eyeing the overseas market must prove themselves first in the local market.

"Going overseas should only be the second step. The first is to develop their own franchising program here in the Philippines," Baroian says.

Seize the opportunity

Baroian stresses that Filipino firms who feel they have a good concept should seriously consider franchising their operations and expanding because there are other firms abroad that are ready to poach on their traditional markets.

"The fast growth of the franchising business in the world should serve as a warning to Philippine business. If they don't see the opportunity

RP/C2

BOROIAN

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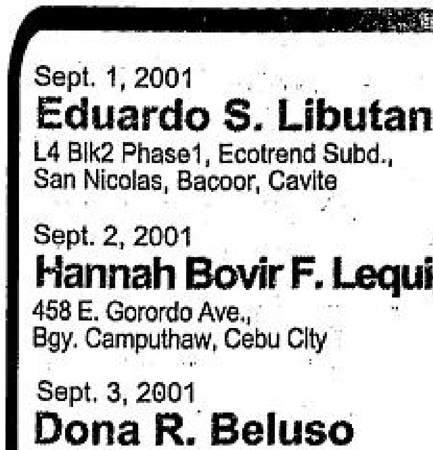

WEEKLY WINNER
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Lilybeth P. Mendoza
79 Gen. Espino St., Bgy. Signal Village, Taguig, MM.

DAILY WINNERS
P5,000

Sept. 1, 2001
Eduardo S. Libutan
L4 Blk2 Phase1, Ecotrend Subd.,
San Nicolas, Bacoor, Cavite

Sept. 2, 2001
Hannah Bovir F. Lequigan
458 E. Gorordo Ave.,
Bgy. Camputhaw, Cebu City

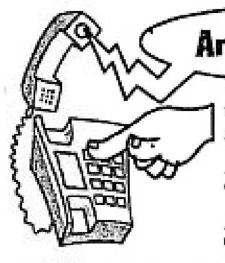
Sept. 3, 2001
Dona R. Beluso
Tytana Bldg., Plaza L. Ruiz St.,
Binondo, Manila

Sept. 4, 2001
Angelo A. Tan
Blk. 135, L15, Villa de Calamba Subd.,
Calamba, Laguna

Sept. 5, 2001
Emmalyn P. Ariola
Granja St., Bgy. 7, Lipa, Batangas

Sept. 6, 2001
Evangeline D. Rodriguez
2826 Silang St., Sta. Ana, Manila

Sept. 7, 2001
Archernar D. Jocson
7 E. Fernandez St., Bgy. Batis, San Juan, MM.



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- Entries should be sent from 6:00 a.m. to 12:00 m.n. to qualify for the draws.

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Cebu hit by exports drop

BY DENNIS M. ARROYO

THE WORLD economy is down, and so goes the export markets for the Philippines. Cebu, which is heavily dependent on exports, is hard hit. Malls there indicate what has happened to the local economy. They are no longer teeming with people, for families are trying to save.

Empty malls

The hard data confirm what is seen in empty malls. Cebu is the most affected among the three cities covered in a study of marketing guru Dr. Ned Roberto.

He recently presented his research "Consumer Coping Behavior Survey for the 2nd Quarter 2001." It is subtitled "How Urban Consumers are Coping with Hard Times." This piece concludes the report on the main findings from Roberto's study.

As we previously said, the items that cater to the needs of the poor—and within reach of their wallets—will continue to enjoy brisk sales during these hard times. The purchase behavior of class DE is important for marketing, for the segment covers some 65 percent of the population.

The survey was taken in April 2001, covering Metro Manila, Cebu, and Davao. The 700 respondents were all housewives. In Cebu City, there were 100 from the comfortable class ABC, (with C being the middle class), and 100 from class DE.

(Class D comprised the poor while Class E were the very poor.)

A large 28 percent of Cebu DE families felt their income was "Extremely Short" of their needs. The other ratios there were 39 percent for Just Enough, 21 percent for a Bit Short and 12 percent for Quite Short.

How often did they experience being "*kapos*" in the past four weeks?

Table 1

Not at all	22 %
Once	26
Twice	26
3-5 times	14
6 times to every other day	11
Everyday	1

Ways of coping with hard times

How did they rate the country's overall economic condition? The total for all classes in Cebu City:

Table 2

Very Good	0 %
Good	8
Bad	75
Very Bad	17

There were various ways of coping with hard times. The home manager had the option of buying the product more often, maintaining current levels of consumption, cutting down on purchase, eliminating it from the budget, or returning it to the budget.

Take the case of canned fish. Among Cebu's DE families, 54 percent maintained current consumption, 13 percent reduced purchases and 17 percent eliminated it from the budget.

For canned meat, the ratios among Cebu's DE families were: 49 percent for Maintain, 10 percent for Reduce and 28 percent for Eliminate.

Ice cream consumption had gone down sharply for the same group: only 35 percent for Maintain, one percent for Reduce, and 56 percent for Eliminate.

Movie watching was also hard hit, due to the downturn in malling and the proliferation of pirated VCDs. The ratios for the same group were: 6 percent for Maintain, 3 percent for Reduce, and 40 percent for Eliminate.

Table 5

Movie watching	77 %
Magazine / comics	56
Ice cream	55
Visit to dentist	53
Eating at fast foods	52
Follow-on Formula	52
Growing-up milk	49
Malling	49
Infant formula	44
Cosmetics	43
Evaporated milk	43
Fruit juice concentrate	43
Breakfast cereal	43
Cold cuts	43
Condensed milk	42
Panty liners	42
Ready-to-drink fruit juice	42
Fresh milk	41
Bottled water refill (1 liter or less)	41
Junk food	40
Candies	40
Bottled water at the supermarket	40
Astringent	40
Newspaper	40
Bouillon	39
All-purpose cream	39
Disposable diaper	39
Facial wash	38

Table 5 (continued)

Bottled water at the supermarket, 5 gallons	38 %
Visit to doctor	36
Out of town travel	36
Bottled water refill for home, 5 gallons	36
Rent VHS / VCD	33
Bread spread	32
Going to computer shops/ Internet cafe	31
Loaf bread	31
Baby/ body oil	30
Powdered milk for kids	30
Vitamins	29
Canned meat	28
Instant rice porridge	29
Powdered milk for adults	27
Deodorant	22
Hotdog	21
Lotion	20
Cologne	19
Softd rinks	19
Alcohol	17
Canned fish	17
Talcum powder	15
Powdered fruit juice	14
Instant noodle	13
Sanitary napkin	12
Coffee	11
Medicines	11

Movie watching was down to its lowest levels ever among the poor. They still saw the movies though, but at home. Their main outlets were the Viva blockbuster movies, followed by VHS tapes.

The chill in malling was another phenomenon of the slowdown. The ratios among the Cebu DE families were 34 percent for Maintain, 10 percent for Reduce, and 49 percent for Eliminate. Malling was "dangerously down" according to Roberto.

Malling was considered expensive, at it would be a strong temptation to spend. The Cebuanos substituted this with going to the beach.

Eating at fast foods also dropped in the Cebu DE list of priorities. The ratios were 32 percent for Maintain, 11 percent for Reduce, and 52 percent for Eliminate.

Alternatives to fast foods were street food or food bought at the corner carts.

Products maintained in the budget

Here is the list of the most MAINTAINED expenditure items among DE Cebuanos:

Table 3

Toothpaste	92%
Shampoo	91
Toothbrush	90
Condiments	85
Sugar	83
Fresh produce	82
Bath soap	82
Coffee	75
Sanitary napkin	75
Talcum powder	75
Alcohol	74
Lotion	72
Deodorant	71

Next are the most REDUCED items among Cebu Class DE families:

Table 4

Canned Fish	13%
Soft drinks	12
Rice	11
Eating at fast food	11
Fresh Meat	10
Canned Meat	10
Malling	10

The "maintain" and "reduced" lists were dwarfed by the roster of the most ELIMINATED expenditure items—55 items in all—among DE families in Cebu. **(See Table 5)**

Cebu had seven items that suffered reduction behaviors, compared to four for Manila. Cebu had 55 items that were eliminated by most households, compared with 31 for Manila. Among the three sample regions, including Davao, Cebu was indeed the hardest hit.

MALLS in Cebu are no longer teeming with people

RP firms . . .

(From page C1)

to expand themselves or to improve their services, they will be the victim of the foreign companies coming in," Baroian says.

He cites the example of a Mexican fast-food firm that had close to 30 hamburger outlets in Mexico City. It failed to upgrade its systems even after it heard of the plan of McDonald's to expand in Mexico City. Now, it is down to only one or two outlets because it lost customers to the American hamburger joint.

"This is going to happen here also unless they upgrade or expand because the available market opportunities will be seen by the other companies, even the foreign ones," he adds.

Franchising

He recommends that Filipino firms consider franchising because it allows Filipino franchisors to expand quickly and at the least expense.

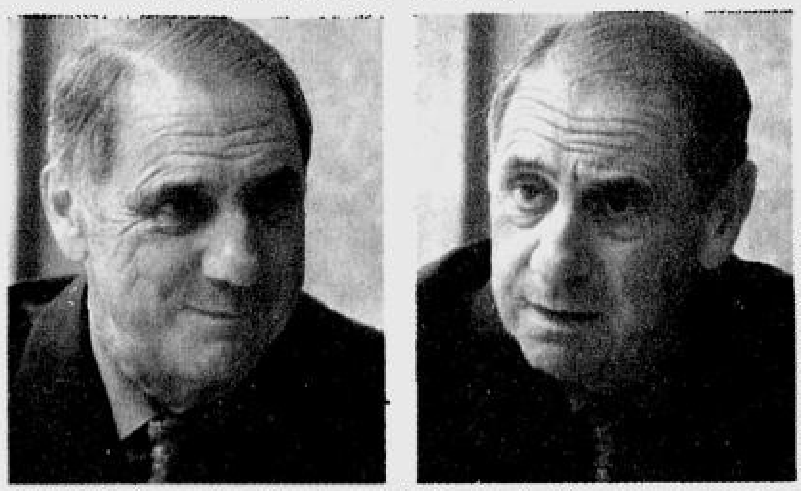
"Companies these days are faced with problems like the lack of capital, the lack of people and time constraints. By franchising, this problem is solved because the franchisees themselves will shoulder the cost of putting up the land and in operating the business" Baroian says.

Franchising, he adds, is also the logical expansion tack to go overseas because partners in those countries know their markets and would know best how to operate a foreign franchise.

He cites Radio Shack, an American electronics firm that lost $35 million because of its bungled attempt to expand to Japan. McDonalds and KFC, on the other hand, succeeded where Radio Shack failed because they tapped local partners.

Baroian has over 40 years experience in franchising and has provided consulting services for more than 10,000 business including Hershey Foods, Texaco and Valvoline.

Francorp is considered the world's largest franchise consulting firm with operations in Chicago, Los Angeles, Florida, New York, Buenos Aires, Mexico City, Montevideo, Tokyo and in the Philippines. *(Don Baroian is one of the speakers featured in the ongoing Franchise Asia 2001 Conference.)*



PHOTOS BY ROMY HOMILLADA

FILIPINO firms should seize market opportunities.

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What to do when there is excess income

By John Gary U. Teves

TAX-FILES

WHEN a company realizes net income from favorable operations, it is immediately confronted with the issue of utilizing excess earnings. The usual course of action taken is to spend part of the excess earnings for business expansion projects or property acquisitions.

Some companies declare and issue stock dividends or pay cash dividends to stockholders. However, other companies simply retain and accumulate these unappropriated earnings. In time, these would accumulate to more than 100 percent of a firm's paid-up capital stock.

With the imposition of the Improperly Accumulated Earnings Tax (IAET) under the Tax Reform Act of 1997 (Tax Code), companies have been subject to IAET on excess accumulated and unappropriated earnings starting taxable year 1998, if these earnings reach more than 100 percent of the paid-up capital.

The Bureau of Internal Revenue issued Revenue Regulations No. 2-2001 which provide rules on the imposition of the IAET, particularly for the distribution of cash or stock dividends.

Section 29 of the Tax Code imposes an IAET of 10 percent on improperly accumulated taxable income of corporations formed or availed of for the purpose of avoiding the income tax (dividend tax) with respect to its shareholders or shareholders of any other corporation.

The tax is primarily imposed on domestic corporations classified as closely held corporations having at least 50 percent in value of the outstanding capital stock or total combined voting power owned directly or indirectly by or not more than 20 individuals.

Nevertheless, a company having unappropriated excess earnings is allowed to declare dividends during the next taxable year (for one year) in order to reduce excess earnings and avoid the IAET. Otherwise, the tax must be paid within 15 days after the one-year period.

Case study

A Co. is a domestic corporation with majority of its outstanding capital stock owned by 10 individual stockholders belonging to the same family. Its audited financial statements indicate that the company has a paid-up capital of 1,000,000 as of December 2000, whereas its retained earnings for the year amounted to P8.5 million.

There was no disclosure of any allocation of funds for building expansion or property acquisitions.

Since the company has no intention of allocating the excess earnings for definite corporate priority programs, it is considered to have improperly accumulated earnings beyond the reasonable needs of the business.

Retaining earnings in excess of the 100 percent paid-up capital threshold is a strong indication that there is improper accumulation of earnings.

Thus, it will be prudent for A Co. to declare dividends on its 2000 earnings and avoid the IAET. If dividends are not declared, the company may be subject to deficiency IAET and to dividends tax if cash dividends are eventually declared and paid to individual stockholders.

The IAET must be paid 15 days from Dec. 31, 2001

The firm has the following options to consider in declaring dividends:

1. First option-cash dividends

A Co. may declare and pay cash dividends on a portion or on the whole amount of the accumulated earnings of 8,500,000 on or before Dec. 31, 2001.

The dividends distributed to the individual stockholders will be subject to 10-percent dividends tax under Section 24B of the Tax Code. This is a final withholding tax payable within 10 days after the end of the month when the dividend is paid or payable.

As mentioned above, the IAET regulations allow retention of 100 percent of the paid-up capital of the total earnings of P8.5 million. This is considered as reasonable business needs.

2. Second option—stock dividends

Stock dividends are not subject to dividends tax. Companies intending to plow back earnings into its equity may decide to declare and issue stock dividends instead of cash dividends. To declare stock dividends, a board resolution for such purpose must be approved by a majority of the board of directors and the stockholders representing at least two-thirds of the outstanding capital stock.

A Co. can convert the P7.5-million excess earnings into equity by declaring stock dividends for 75,000 shares of stock (at 100 par value per share) which will be issued and fully paid. The dividends must be declared and issued within taxable period 2001.

However, A Co.'s remaining unissued shares in its authorized capital stock must be sufficient to take up these stock dividends to be declared.

In case the number of unissued shares is insufficient to take up the stock dividends to be declared, A Co. has to increase its capital stock. The increase of capital stock should be embodied in a resolution approved by a majority of the company's board of directors and by its stockholders owning at least two-thirds of its outstanding capital stock.

The application for the increase of capital stock should be filed with the Securities and Exchange Commission. The increase of capital stock will only take effect upon the approval by the SEC.

Additionally, under Section 175 of the Tax Code, shares of stock issued from the unissued portion of the capital stock are subject to DST at the rate of two for every 200 par value. This is payable within the first five days after the close of the month when the shares were issued.

Cash dividends vs stock dividends

It should be noted, however, that in previous decided cases, it was ruled that dividend distribution must be in cash. In one case, the Court of Appeals held that stock dividend should be added back to the surplus balance for purposes of determining the improperly accumulated earnings.

(Sime Darby International Tire Co. Inc. vs Court of Tax Appeals, C.A., Oct. 19, 1992.)

The court distinguished between cash dividend and stock dividend.

Cash dividend is a disbursement to the stockholder of accumulated earnings, with the corporation parting irrevocably with all its interest therein. On the other hand, stock dividend involves no disbursement and the amount presented by the stock dividend remains that of the corporation's.

The court concluded that no actual dividend distribution takes place when stock dividends are declared. The court further reasoned that the US Internal Revenue Code after which the 1977 National Internal Revenue Code was patterned does not permit crediting as dividends paid non-taxable stock dividend distributions.

In fact, under US jurisprudence, for purposes of the accumulated earnings tax, the earned surplus figures are adjusted by restoring the amounts of previously declared nontaxable stock dividends.

Nevertheless, the law and the IAET regulations do not make any distinction.

There is no mention that dividends should only be in cash. In fact, Section 6 of the IAET regulations provide that dividends must be declared and paid or issued not later than one year following the close of the taxable year.

Thus, dividends may either be cash or stock.

The IAET is imposed for the purpose of penalizing corporations accumulating unappropriated earnings instead of distributing them to the shareholders.

Therefore, a corporation trying to avoid the IAET must do the next best thing, that is, to distribute its earnings to the shareholders. If these shareholders are individuals, then, they will be liable for the dividend tax.

Honoring world-class Pinoy retailers for 2001

By Tina Arceo-Dumlao

VIRGILIO Lim of the Bench group of companies.

JOHNLU Koa of the French Baker group.

SOCORRO Ramos of the National Book Store group.

BIG Winners Virgilio Lim of Dimensione and Human and Bernard Liu of Penshoppe and Oxygen.

PHOTOS BY MIKE ALQUINTO

RICO Tantoco receives the award for Rustan's which was named the Most Outstanding Filipino Retailer 2001 for the full line department store category.

IT HAS been a difficult year for many businesses in the Philippines, including the retail industry, as the country continues to cope with economic and political challenges.

But there are still those companies that managed to outperform the competition even in these trying times, and it is these companies that the Philippine Retailers Association and the Department of Trade and Industry recognized as the Outstanding Filipino Retailers for 2001.

Now on its 5th year, the Outstanding Filipino Retailers Awards seek to encourage Filipino retailers to adopt world class standards and practices to be globally competitive. These awards recognize retailers who have "epitomized the model of a successful retailer in terms of growth and good ethical practices."

The awards for the full line department store, category specialist (fashion and non-fashion), medium scale, small scale and most promising retailer are open to all homegrown Filipino retailers (excluding convenience stores, service and food establishments, groceries and supermarkets).

These retailers should have been in operation for at least five years and at least two for the Most Promising Filipino Retailer Award.

The Outstanding Filipino Retailers in the respective categories were judged according to their marketing expertise, operations, sales, environment (which includes the look and the style of the stores) and reputation, which covers ethical practices.

Bagging the award for best full line department store was Rustan's, while National Book Store with its 40 branches and 60-percent market share was the uncontested winner for the specialist category (non-fashion).

The medium-scale fashion award, which was open to retailers with an asset size of between P15 million and P99 million, went to 30-year-old leather goods manufacturer Manel's and Cebu-based fashion house Penshoppe.

Penshoppe won the award for the 2nd year in a row.

For the non-fashion category, furniture store Dimensione went home with the award, over Designer Blooms, Gift Gate and Travel Club.

There was another tie for the Most Promising Retailer Award (fashion),, and this time it went to Human, also owned by Ben Chan of Bench fame, and Oxygen, a sister firm of Penshoppe.

For the non-fashion category, the nominees were Filipino Bookstore, a member of Bookmark, Picture City and Regalong Pambahan, a distributor of Philippine décor and accessories since 1997.

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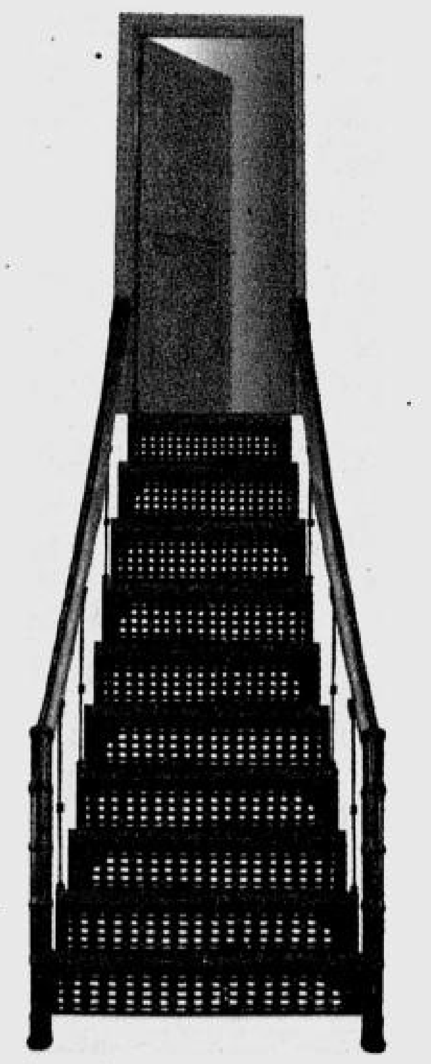

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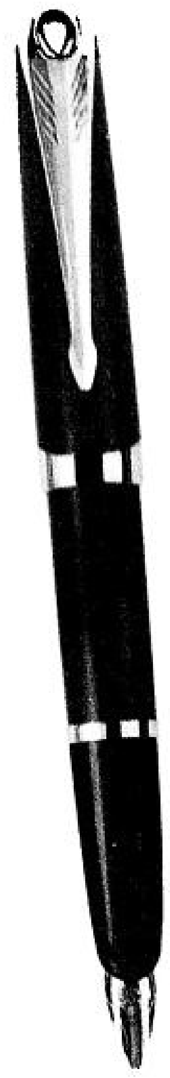

MARKET SHARE UP FROM 20% TO 80%

Pen firm goes fancy to write up sales

BY GIL C. CABACUNGAN JR.

WHEN Star Paper Corp. took over the Philippine distribution rights for Parker in 1992, the pen with the distinctive arrow pocket clip had a 20-percent share in a market dominated by its rival, Cross.

By radically changing the way fine pens are sold in the country, Star Paper has been able to grab the lead and boost market share to more than 80 percent in the last eight years, and in the process put the luster back on the Parker brand.

Star Paper general manager Romeo Jacinto recalls that when they took over from their predecessor, which handled the brand for two decades, "pens were sold like toy soldiers with all brands lying side by side on an ordinary display case."

From the start, Jacinto said Star Paper realized the need to make Parker stand out from ordinary ball pens and rival premium pen brands.

"If we can show Parker's high levels of style, technical innovation and quality, we are sure that Filipino buyers would choose our products."

MARKETING STRATEGY

First, Star Paper invested heavily in putting fancy, display cabinets (not unlike those used to showcase jewelry and fine watches) in leading commercial centers in Metro Manila and the provinces.

Star Paper also made sure that each booth would have sufficient stock of the latest Parker models to ensure that they would always be ready whenever a consumer demands them.

Another major innovation that Star Paper introduced in marketing Parker was to put dedicated personnel to man their booths.

Jacinto said people selling Parker pens know their stuff and they should be able to communicate well with customers all the lines from the functional to premium lines to collectors' items.

Jacinto said it was not enough that buyers know our prices, "they should also be made aware of the benefits of using our pens." He said Parker sales agents not only let their customers look at the pens, they let buyers try their pens.

Star Paper product manager Ben Arlen Tan said the company's policy was to maintain a permanent staff that they trained regularly every year to keep them updated with the changes in marketing and the new products of Parker.

"We have a very low turnover rate because we keep our personnel happy with commissions. We realized that selling pens requires personal touch because most buyers are *suki* or loyal patrons," Tan said.

Star Paper also beefed up its after-sales services as part of its commitment to replace defective products.

Tan said Star Paper took advantage of Filipinos' penchant of buying pens as gifts especially for graduation. He said the company offers free engraving services to retail buyers.

However, since a growing number of their sales were for gifts, Tan said Parker has been facing stiff competition from mobile phones, which has become a must-have items for kids in the last two years.

"We are confident that pens are superior to mobile phones as gifts because they last longer. Mobile phone models change every six months but our pens are collectors' items," Tan said.

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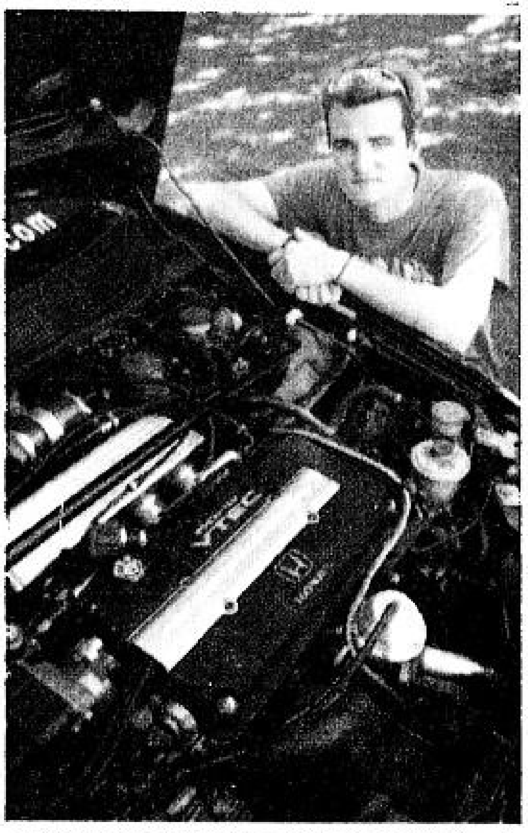

JACK Moran, 23, poses with his 1999 Honda Civic SI.

New generation spends big bucks on cars

PORTLAND, Maine—Jack Moran's father tinkered with a Ford Mustang, the affordable muscle car of the 1960s.

Moran's own choice is the Honda Civic, an affordable sedan traditionally valued less for its muscularity than its reliability and good gas mileage.

But Moran doesn't just tinker. He's pumped in $30,000—about twice the car's purchase price—to create a 340-horsepower monster.

He added a turbocharger, titanium valve train, upgraded pistons, bigger exhaust and a new camshaft.

Now, he's saving money for new differentials, tires and wheels—and then maybe brakes, a carbon fiber hood, some race seats.

"I'm only going to be young once," said Moran, who is 23.

Young men lavishing money on compact cars—sometimes called "pocket rockets"—is the fastest-growing segment of the $25-billion market for automotive accessories used to bulk up cars, trucks and vans.

The trend is spotlighted in the movie "The Fast and the Furious" that came out this summer, but it started on the West Coast long before. Now it is becoming almost mainstream.

Hot cars

While previous generations gathered in parking lots to show off hot cars with big V8 engines, a growing segment of the cellphone- and beeper-generation has turned its back on American muscle in favor of flashy compacts like the Civic, Mazda Protege, Acura Integra, Mitsubishi Eclipse and Ford Focus.

Driven by males 18 to 25 years old, the market is projected to grow by 30 percent this year to $1.5 billion, said Rosemarie Kitchin, spokesperson for the Specialty Equipment Market Association.

What starts as a hobby can quickly become addictive. "It gets into your blood and it turns into a drug," said Ryan Hanson, owner of Northeast Auto Design in Portland. "Once you're infected with the performance virus, it's just coursing through your veins. It's all you think about."

At Hanson's shop, a good customer spends several thousand dollars on performance-enhancing parts like computer chips, throttle bodies, exhausts, turbochargers and racing wheels.

Other shops specialize in parts that are mainly for looks—spoilers, stickers, neon lights and chrome exhaust tips.

Chris Cedergren of Nextrend, a consumer research firm in Thousand Oaks, California, said souping up small cars is "a trend that has been growing dramatically."

American muscle cars, such as Camaros and Firebirds, often are too expensive for young drivers to buy and insure. That's especially true for customers still in high school.

Another reason is performance. Moran said his 1999 Honda Civic Si can outstrip his father's 2001 Corvette.

Growing demand

"His is new school," said Mick Moran, who supports his son's enthusiasm for cars. "Mine is old school."

There is one drawback: The Honda's 1.6-liter engine, half the size of the engine in an American muscle car, now burns too much gas for him to drive it daily, so Moran uses his 1995 Ford Escort to deliver pizzas.

Manufacturers have rushed to meet the demand.

In the seven years since Wings West of Newport Beach, California, began making spoilers and body kits, sales have grown more than tenfold from $1 million, said company official Ernie Bunnell.

Another Californian, Brian Horowitz, began selling clear "euro" taillights in his garage three years ago. This year, he expects his American Products Co. in Corona, California, to sell $100 million worth of products including glow-at-night dashboard gauges, carbon fiber hoods and strut-tower bars.

"This is a real industry and it's getting stronger. We're on the base of a mountain. We're not even halfway to the top," Horowitz said. "It's the best-kept secret in the industry."

Traditional parts companies are gearing more products toward the market.

Nopi, which was founded in 1966, started out selling shocks, alternators and engine parts, but up to 90 percent of sales now come from performance parts and accessories, said Michael Meyers, president of Nopi Nationals, an event next weekend that will draw 7,000 cars to the Atlanta Speedway.

That the trend would take hold in Maine—about as far from its epicenter in southern California as one can drive, both in distance and attitude—is a clear sign of its spreading popularity.

Radio City in Portland got its start selling thunderous car stereos, but it now sells more parts than stereos. "The Fast and the Furious" hasn't hurt either: The store saw a 15-percent spike in sales after it hit the theaters.

"It came out at the right time. It's summer and people want to do stuff to their cars," said Brent Worrey, who works at the store. *AP*

LIFESTYLE

Trend Spotting

CHELO BANAL-FORMOSO, Editor ▪ MARGE C. ENRIQUEZ, Subsection Editor

Putting soul in their work

IN THIS business, there are more publicity hounds than there are real people who are worth writing about.

Beneath the pomp of glamour, power or talent, publicity hounds are hollow. Because they're only after self-promotion, though thinly disguised, they make predictable copy. Real people don't seek the limelight, yet recognition follows them like a shadow.

Real people are mature yet they never stop learning. Because they are motivated by love for life that touches the hearts of others, much of what they discover gives them satisfaction. They let their gifts overflow so that their colleagues gain from them. Their words and deeds impress me as the natural grace of what lies within their spirit.

Meeting people who personify the authentic quality of the self, in the limelight or out of it, is uncommon these days. Spending time with such persons as Bernido Liu, CEO of Golden ABC Inc. and France-based danseur Ernest Mandap is a privilege. Liu shares how his faith in God helped him build Penshoppe into a market leader (*Story on D2*). Mandap talks about the importance of being earnest (*Story on D5*).

BERNIE Liu

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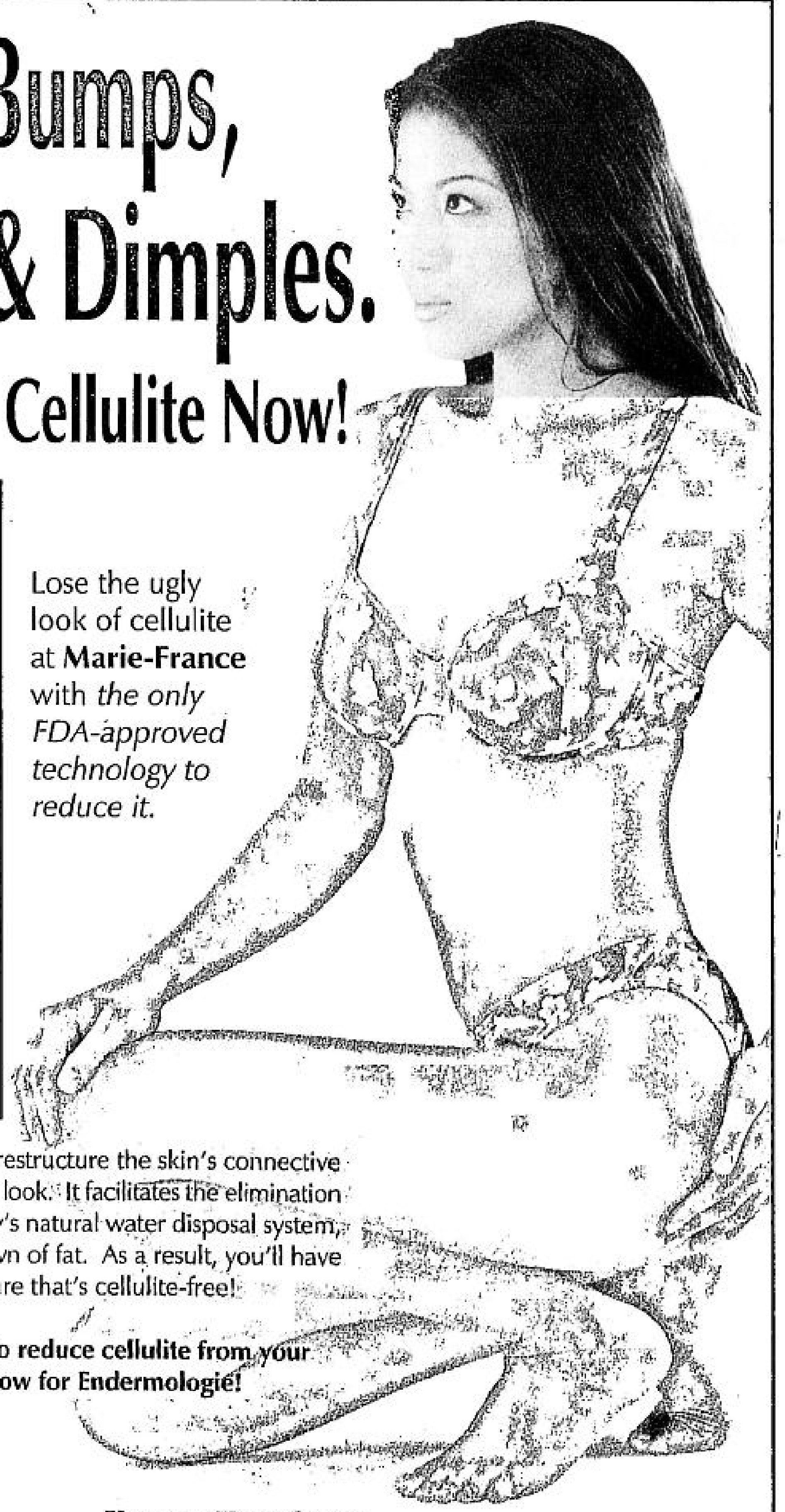

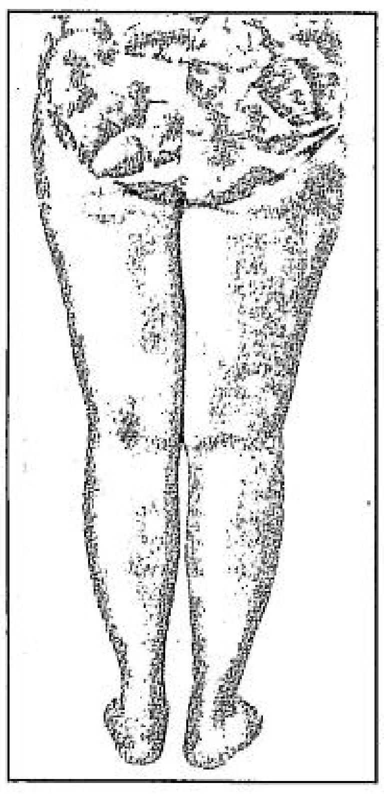

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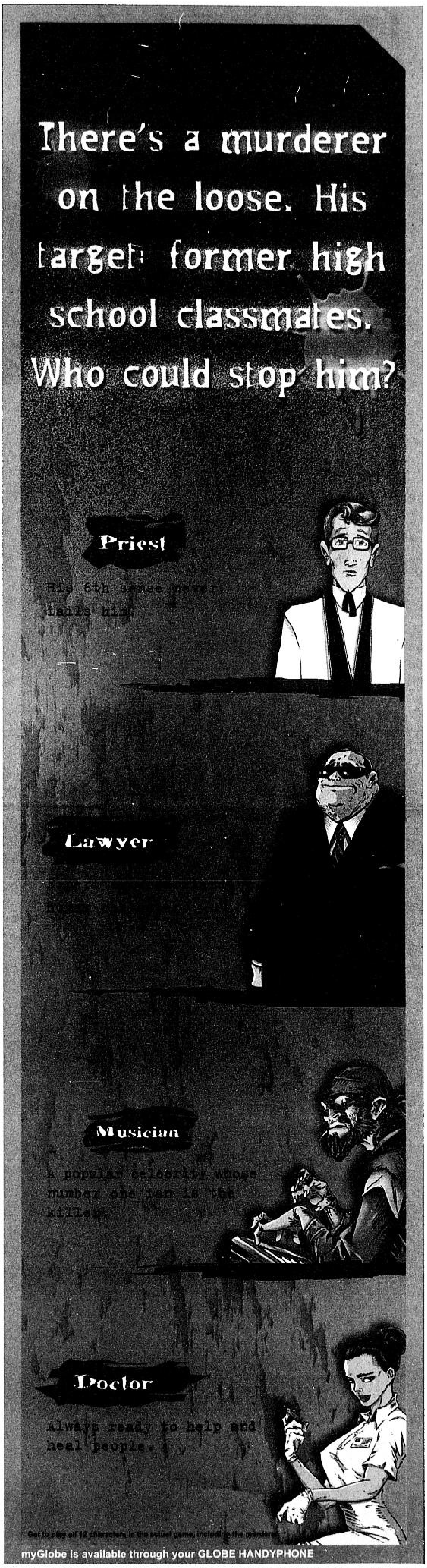

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The fashion house that positive energy built

By Marge C. Enriquez

IN THE MID-'80S, a young and idealistic architect from Cebu began a T-shirt line that was an alternative to the limited and staid designs in the market. With no background in fashion, merchandising, retailing and marketing, Bernido Liu and his friends ran their business like the proverbial blind leading the blind.

After 15 years, Golden ABC Inc., maker of Penshoppe, has obviously struck gold. Liu has been able to lead Penshoppe despite gambles and setbacks. Today it is a leader in the teen fashion market. And, for the second time in a row, Penshoppe received the Most Outstanding Filipino Retailer in the fashion category by the Philippine Retailer Association and the Department of Trade and Industry. Oxygen, the alternative label, was awarded the Most Promising New Brand (it's less than five years old). In 2000, Liu, Golden ABC's CEO, also received the Agora Award for Entrepreneurship.

While other business leaders may keep their idea of spirituality to themselves, Liu always has been outspoken about it. To him, real spirituality is not mere devotion to God or a system of worship, but a positive attitude toward the self and others. This mindset has made his business a joy rather than a struggle to the top.

CEO, Bernie Liu, and his partner at home and at work, Alice, who's the vice president for merchandising

Golden ABC operated by hits and misses. Fifteen years hence, it is on top of the local fashion retailing world with Penshoppe and Oxygen

Bold move

Liu laughingly recalls the early days of the business when the company was operating at a loss. His mother would shuttle between Cebu and Quezon City to oversee a garment factory in Novaliches. When she and her friends ended their partnership, she stayed in Cebu full-time. Feeling compassion for the workers, the Lius took them under their wing. The factory produced shirts that were giveaways during the holidays. However, the business was seasonal and the workers had to be sustained. After getting his license in architecture, Liu and his friends took over the family business.

To keep the workers busy all year round, Penshoppe was born. It started out as a t-shirt brand with hip expressions and graphics. Since it was novel, the youth market snapped up the styles.

Liu enjoyed setting sky-high goals and seeing them materialize like the wind in his face. His next move was to widen his distribution. "There was no garment brand outside Manila that had penetrated the national market. It was a challenge for us. We were bold and crazy enough to sell our wares in Manila," he says.

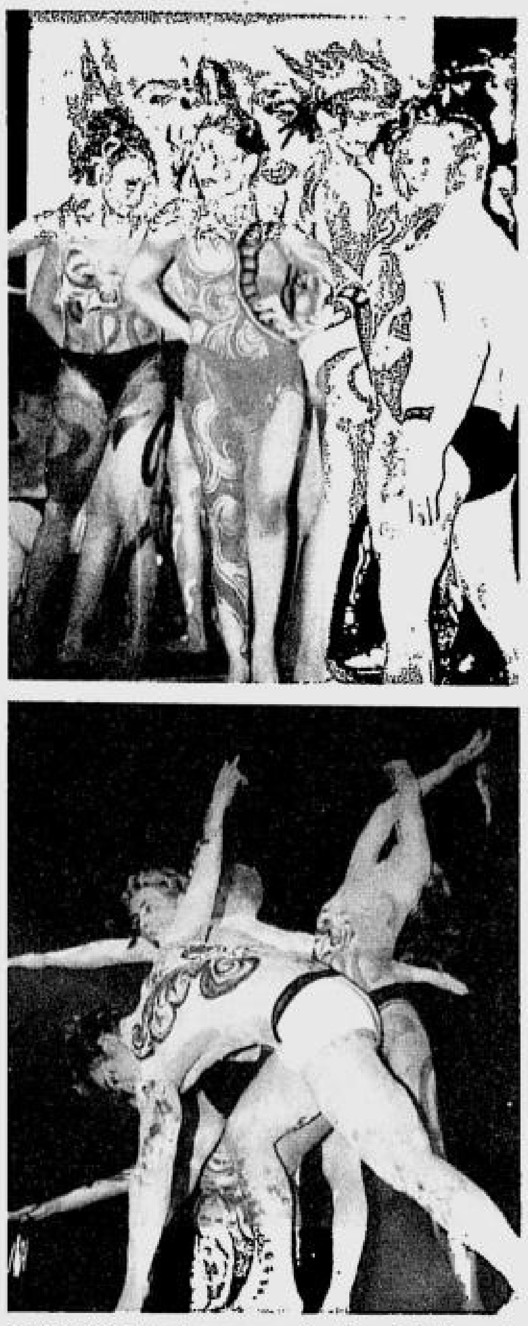
The first five years were difficult. Penshoppe had to compete with other labels in the department stores and the management had no background in retail.

"The priority then was to maintain the factory operations. Everything was geared up for what the factory could do. We were manufacturing-driven instead of fashion-driven or customer-driven," he says.

Mistakes

When people demanded variety, Penshoppe expanded its range without any discrimination. Liu recalls their mistakes along the way, such as buying the wrong fabric paint that bled after washing and adding printed stripes that made the shirts too stiff and not laundry-friendly. The company had no idea about getting the right sizes for the Filipino market. Its supplier from China catered to the American market. He gave them a huge inventory of sizes 9 and 10. Penshoppe ended up with a glut of wrong merchandise or garments and accessories in the wrong sizes and colors.

"The most difficult part was the learning curve. We didn't know about advertising. There was no cohesiveness in communicating our brand. We didn't know if the brand was going to last. The company didn't make money. When we wanted to expand the business in 1990, we had over a million pesos worth of uncollectibles," Liu says.


OXYGEN'S underwear collection is interpreted through performance art in a street show in Intramuros.

However, patience, the willingness to work with the process of growth, has been one of his virtues. Liu knew that rewards were not instant. After learning through hard knocks and traveling, he decided that it was time to get serious.

"We could no longer run the business as a backyard operation," he says.

The company started hiring seasoned pros and consultants from Manila. Penshoppe opened free-standing stores to establish its presence. "After five years, we started seeing the light. When we opened stores, the value of the brand grew. Our perspective broadened. When you don't have your own store, unless you're Levi's or a foreign brand, people won't pay extra for your product."

Bullish

Penshoppe became bullish about opening 10 stores a year. The aggressiveness was matched with advertising and marketing. After 15 years, Penshoppe owns 80 boutiques, 13 shops-in-stores, and is present in more than 300 department stores. Oxygen, a fashion-forward brand, has 30 stores. Liu adds that his optimism has fueled the growth even during times of economic crisis.

Comparing the retail scene before, Liu says the consumer is getting more sophisticated yet more hard-nosed. He wants a shirt that look like P1,000 for the price of P200. The smart retailer has to give in to the demand. Like most local manufacturers, some of the clothes and undergarments are made overseas. Liu explains that the factories in the Philippines are specialized and limited in their capabilities. Factories overseas have advanced facilities and can produce bigger volumes at a better quality for a lower price.

"We have to adapt to the times. In the local market, the average customers will not pay for high quality. Our manufacturing concentrates on exports rather than selling. We've maintained both. Our garments are made in Manila, complemented by imports. The foreign suppliers are big and consistent, and they deliver on time," he explains.

Ten years ago, when malls were beginning to sprout, all that an entrepreneur needed was a good concept and a catchy name. In the era of exploding options, brands must vie for attention. They invest heavily in advertising and promotions.

Liu recalls how he pleaded with his family to give him P30,000 for his advertising budget when he started out. That's loose change today compared with the P15-million launch of Oxygen and its new collections, including the underwear line. The company commissioned Joey Espino to direct the first interactive-satellite-fed fashion show.

Faith in God

To Liu, there's no other way to go except to push boundaries, and excellence is its own reward. Looking back at the 15 years, he realized that development needed understanding that led to insight. This gave him the capacity to perceive things in a new light. His experiences were his best teachers, which gave him inner strength.

The real success stems from his partnership with God and with his people. The company strikes the balance between acknowledging God's help and recognizing its responsibility to society.

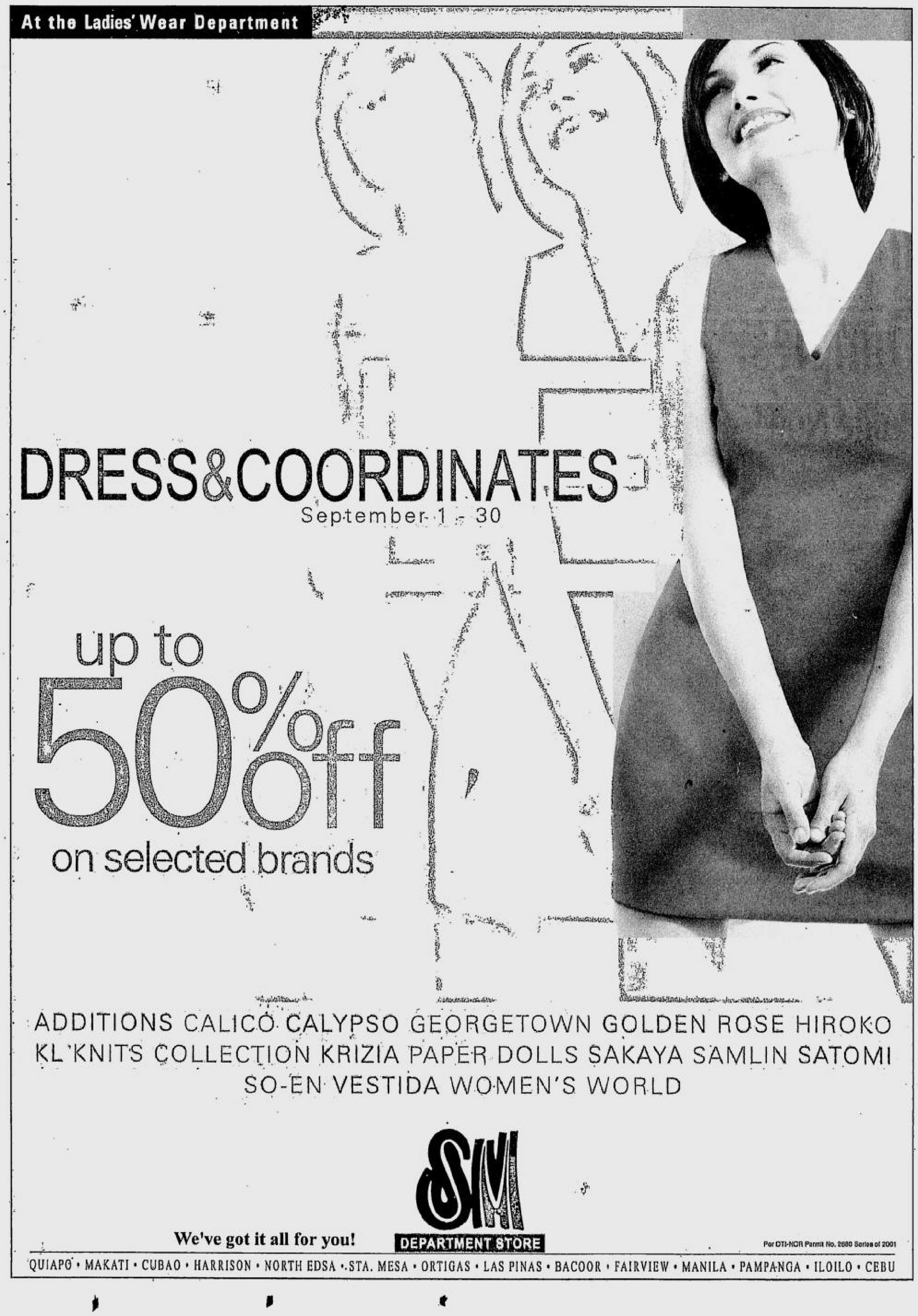
Liu lives by leadership by example. "I believe in walking our talk. I believe in empowerment, but before we empower, there should be competence. I couldn't have run this organization without people helping me. I want to breed entrepreneurs in my organization. At the end of the day they are not just professionals. They are treated like owners."

Liu believes there is a higher calling than business. "I don't like it when everyone in the organization becomes too complacent or when success gets into the behavior and attitude of our people. It's important to remind ourselves that there's a greater calling. We shouldn't lose spirituality at work," he says.

The company starts the day on a positive note with prayers. Employees are spiritually recharged by joining retreats twice a year on company time.

"These remind us that this is just a continuing journey. At the end of the day, the rewards are bigger in this life. I've been so blessed," he says.

Liu is sharing his bounty of positive energy. "If you look around, everything is gloomy. Everybody is depressed. We've got to help our country. Cebuanos are optimistic. That's the balance we provide. We have to keep on going for the sake of our business. We can't stop."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Do the Fashion Walk

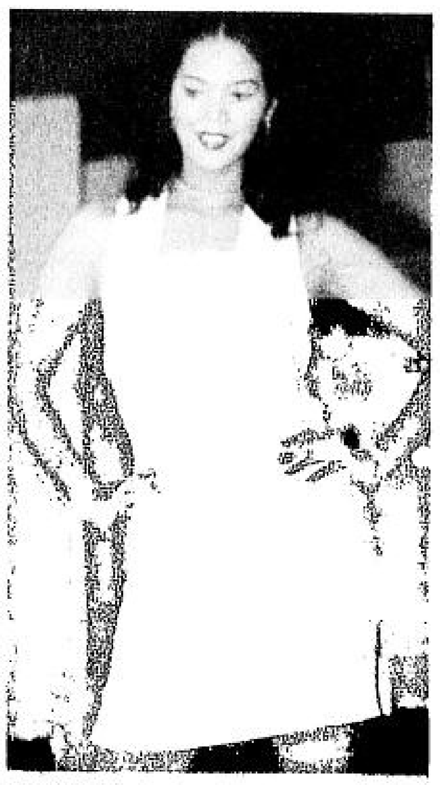
ONE of the fashionably fun places at SM Southmall is Fashion Walk, a cluster of trendy boutiques and shoe stores at the mall's third level.

Shoppers not only got a glimpse of the latest fashion trends, but watched some of Manila's stylish celebrities walk down the ramp at a series of weekend fashion shows. Maldita, Parfait, Human, Flower Connection, Limited, Karuna, Monakiki, and Apple and Eve were among the participating boutiques.

Starting off the series were Maldita and Parfait. Celebrity model Patricia Javier starred in the Maldita show, which featured smart casuals. Parfait, on the other hand, presented a collection of business-smart clothes. Highlighting the collection was a Rive Gauche-inspired line, which featured very French-y denim pieces, blouson tops, berets and cabbage roses.

Individuality and self-expression, meanwhile, ruled the runway during the Human show. Starring model Wilma Doesnt, the hip young humans wowed the audience with its line's laid back, alternative, sporty and urban lines.

The Flower Collection show, meanwhile, was a celebration of girl power. It showcased smocks and feminine tops, softly knitted tops, florals and stripes.


PATRICIA Javier in a stretch white halter dress by Maldita

The fashion series' third installment featured Limited and Karuna. Limited featured hip and trendy "Sex and the City"-inspired pieces with lots of bold prints in bold colors, as well as asymmetrical and tank tops with cabbage rose. Actress Sherilyn Reyes was the guest model, standing out in a micromini skirt paired with a red halter top.

Karuna was a complete contrast with its classic urban lines and elegant evening wear. The Karuna collection for ladies ranged from clean, classic sportswear, military inspired clothes, to its sexy pure white collection in Lycra jersey.

Capping the fashion series were the Monakiki and Apple & Eve shows. Monakiki redefined denim with its new sandblasted and enzyme washed jeans wear line—butterfly jeans and clamdiggers, ladies stretch in military prints. Also featured were bold printed polos, tie-dyed shirts, printed and soft denim tops for women.

Strong, empowered women were the inspiration for Apple & Eve's collection of suits and smart separates. The collection included pinstriped tops, sleek suits, cardigans, twill skirts and pants.

Shoe stores Hush Puppies, Confetti, and B Club also participated and featured their latest collections.

Italy at a bargain

LINEA Italia is now offering up to 80-percent discount on its quality Italian fashion. Hot buys include casual ensembles for men and women from Trussardi, classic suit that have been given a modern twist by Messori, figure-flattering dresses from Amuleti by Mariella Burani, and funky tops and sexy skirts from Gianfranco Ferre, among others. Also check out exciting collections from Versace, Dolce & Gabbana, Max Mara, Sportmax, Gai Mattiolo, Pinko, Roberto Guiducci, Pietrogrande, Navajos and Marco Gabbriellini.

The ongoing sale is part of Linea Italia's "Fashion Revolution" campaign that seeks to bring Italian fashion to the grassroots level by making it more affordable to a wider segment of the market.

Participating shops include Linea Italia 6750, Versace Jeans Couture, Linea Italia, Prima Linea, Capolinea, Linea Uomo, Uomo Tu, Viva and all Corso Marconi outlets in Metro Manila and Cebu.

MESSORI adds a casual touch to the suit by adding a side pocket to the pants and pairing the blazer with a casual black shirt.

Choosing the right pearl strands

PEARL strands are popular and endearing both for their beauty and function. Pearl strands have been classified according to their length. The five basic types of strands are choker, princess (also referred to as standard), matinee, opera and rope.

Choker is a type of strand whose central pearl normally lies in the hollow of the throat. It measures approximately 14-16 inches in length. It is most attractive when worn with open-neck line dresses and V-neck blouses. Choker accentuates small necks and suits petite individuals.

Princess is a type of strand that measures approximately 17-18 inches. It is usually worn with business suits or attires that have necklines a little below the collarbone. Princess also goes well with open tops because it gives an elongating effect to a woman's neck.

Matinee is a type of strand that measures approximately 20-24 inches. It is best worn with turtlenecks and Sabrina-type blouses.

Opera refers to strands that measure approximately 30-36 inches. Along with the rope, the opera is considered as the most valuable because it has the most number of pearls. Both strands are best worn with evening dresses for formal occasions.

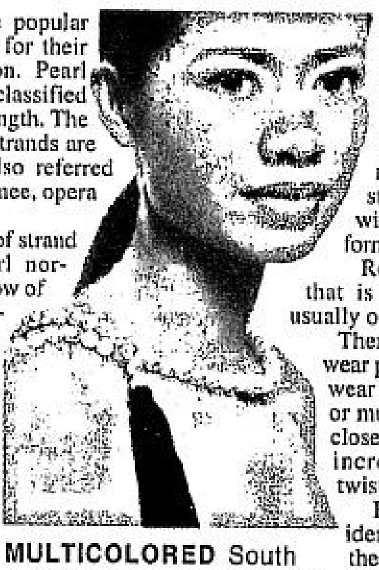
Rope refers to a strand that is longer than Opera, usually over 36 inches.

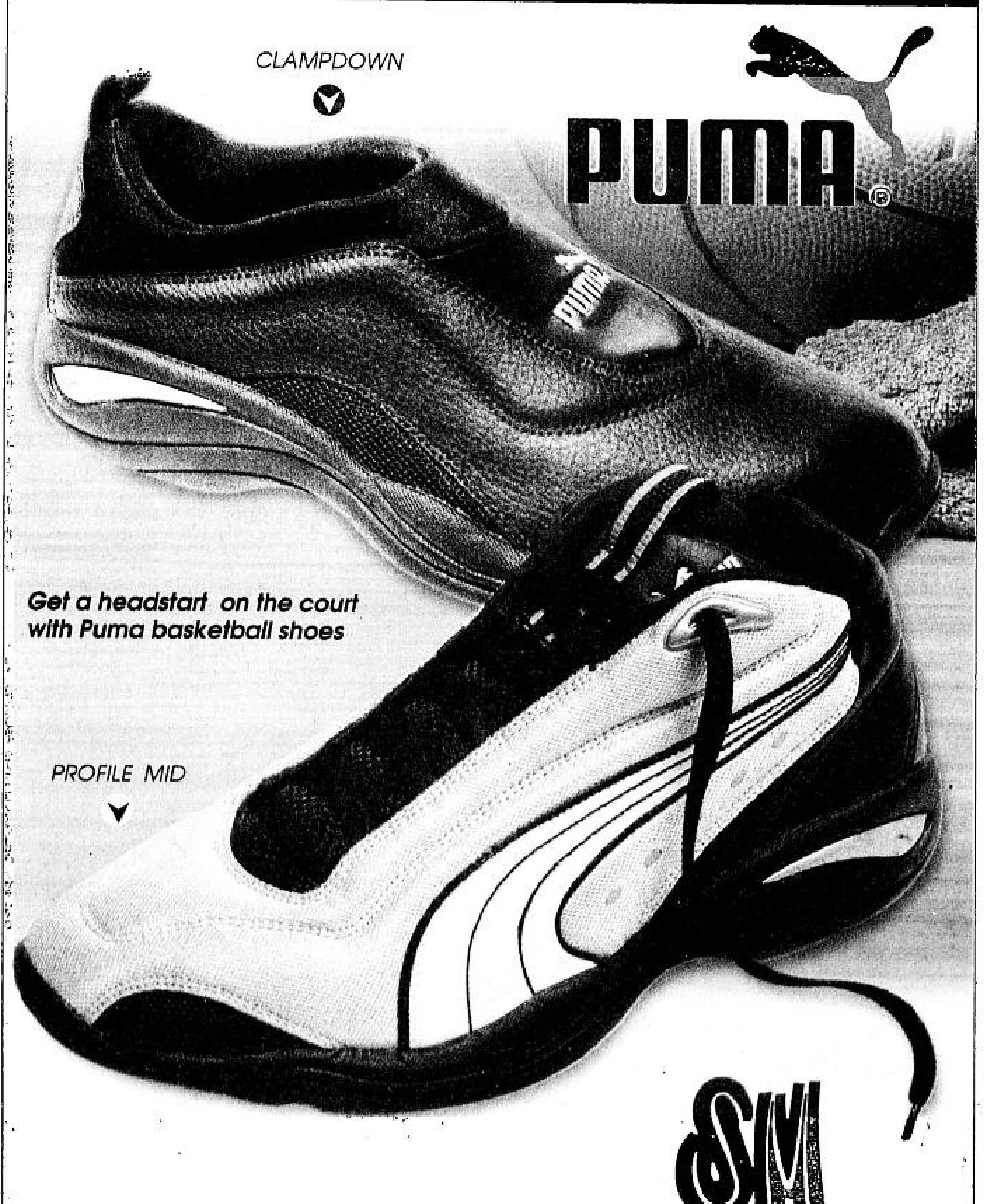
There are many ways to wear pearl strands. You can wear a single pearl strand or multiple strands that fit closely around the neck, in increasing length or twisted together.

Pearl strands are also identified according to the size and color of the pearls that compose them.

"Uniform" refers to a pearl strand with nearly equal-sized pearls while "Graduated" refers to those containing a large pearl in the center, with pearls becoming smaller toward the ends. "Multicolor" makes use of various colors of pearls.

On Sept. 15-Oct. 30, Jewelmer will give discounts on all pearl strand purchases in all its outlets in Metro Manila and Cebu.


MULTICOLORED South Sea pearl strands flatter all skin color.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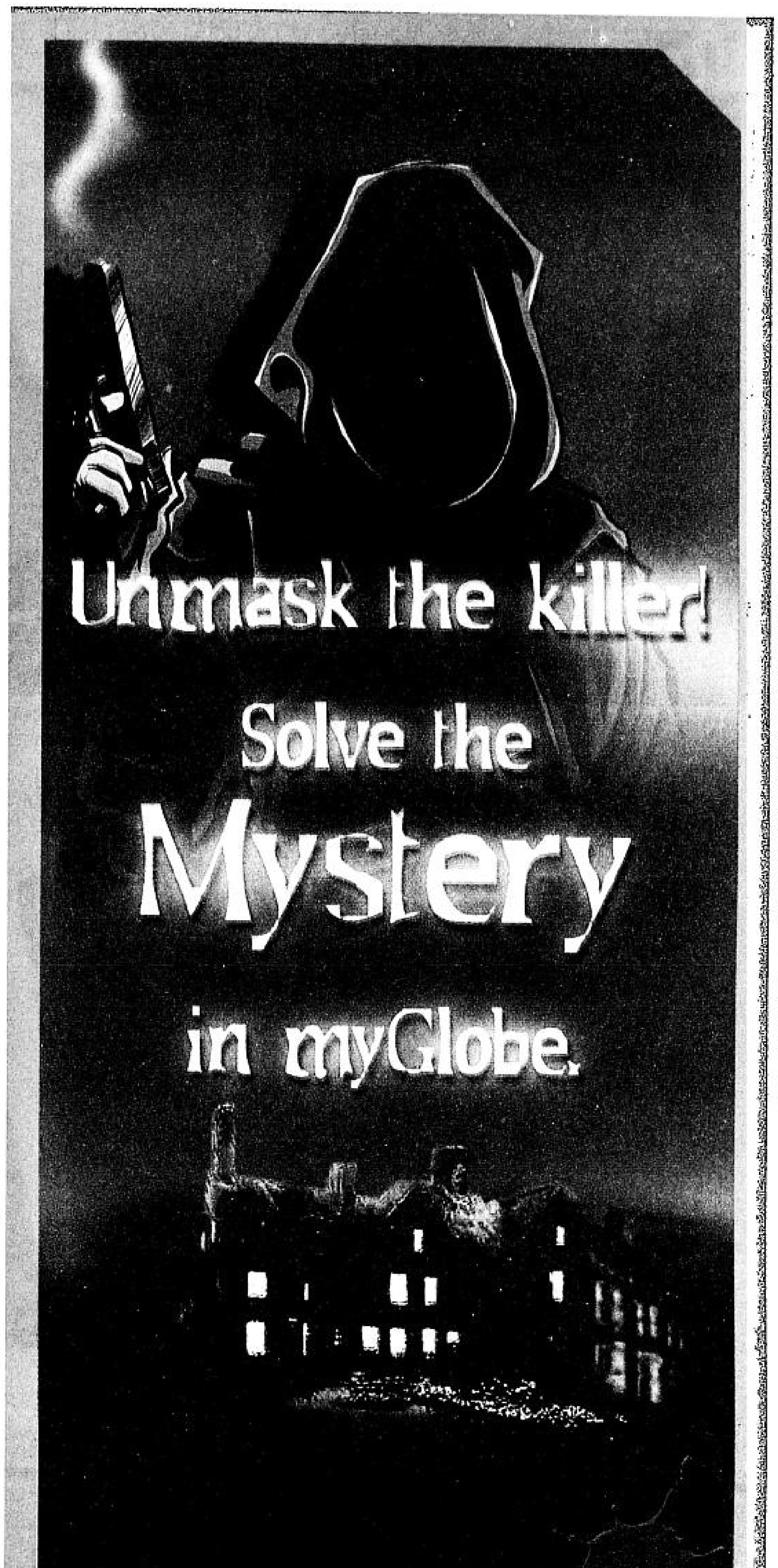

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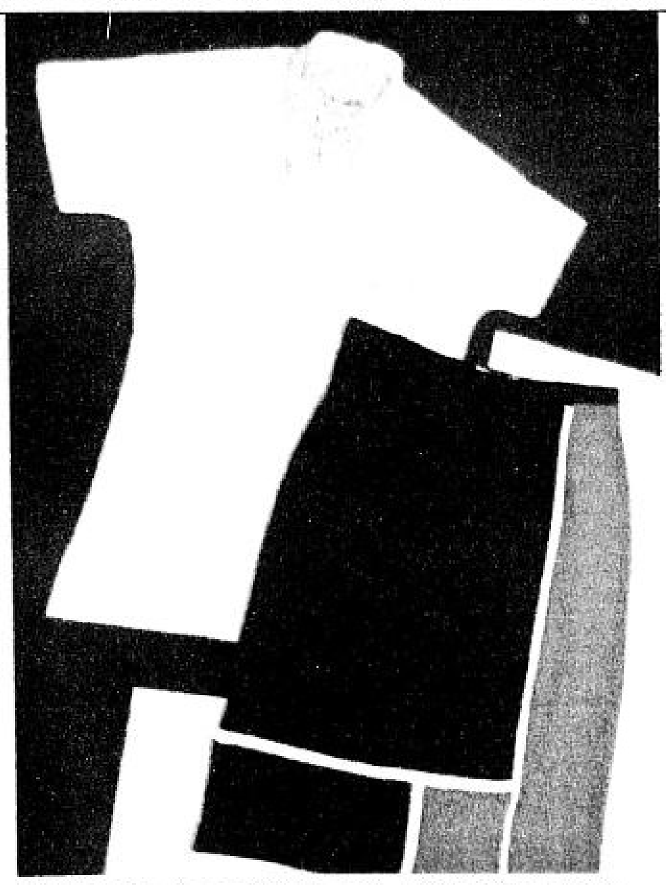
WHITE waffle-printed T-shirt with red and blue piping, P277; Red short shorts, P377 PHOTOS BY ROMY HOMILLADA



WHITE ribbed mock turtleneck, P327; Knee-length Mondrian-inspired printed skirt, P427

Fashion, in and out of the tennis court

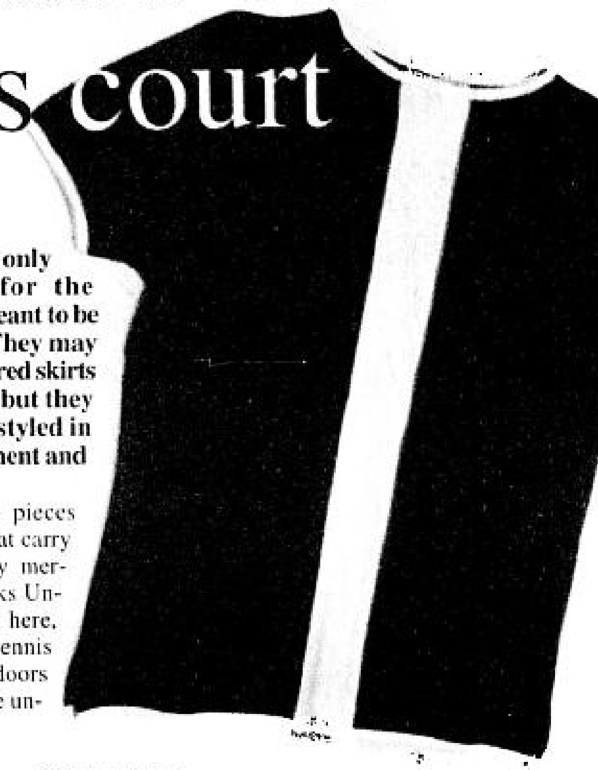
With the euphoria of the US Open, get into the most stylish tennis-inspired clothes

By Camille T. Cruz

TENNIS outfits are not only meant to look fit for the courts. They are also meant to be modern, sporty and stylish. They may not anymore be the pastel-colored skirts that some of us used to wear, but they remain athletic and upbeat, styled in such a way as to hasten movement and boost comfort.

Comfortable tennis-inspired pieces are easy to find in local stores that carry a majority of casual and sporty merchandise. One such store is Ducks Unlimited. Cotton pieces are found here, and they can take you to the tennis court, the beach, or just any outdoors scene. Sports clothes always have unlimited potential and uses.

E-mail the author at camille_cruz@hotmail.com



BLACK T-shirt with white vertical thick stripe, P377

ALL ITEMS FROM DUCKS UNLIMITED, 2/F GLORIETTA II, MAKATI. THERE ARE ALSO OTHER DUCKS UNLIMITED OUTLETS.

Feed your skin with organics

THE BODY Shop introduces a food-inspired bath and body range with organic ingredients—soya, olive and honey.

With hectic working lifestyles, long hours and full social agendas, this new range offers a convenient do-it-yourself home spa regimen that, like comfort food, can be sensually enjoyed—on a regular or daily basis, in the relaxed atmosphere of home.

Organic farming standards prevent environmental degeneration of soil, as normal cultivation methods are high in chemicals and not only deplete the soil but also pollute rivers and are harmful to wildlife. In addition, such standards prioritize animal welfare (livestock are not given antibiotics or growth-promoting drugs), and they sustain a true economy by supporting rural employment within the smaller farms.

Plump, sun-drenched olives of Southern Italy, smooth Brazilian soya beans and soothing, golden honey from Zambia have been translated into a glorious array of treats to suit every bath and body regime.

Each ingredient has been chosen for its moisturizing, skin-smoothing properties and its luxuriant feel on the skin.

High in protein, soya is an excellent and healthy alternative to milk. The rich soya formulations contain Community Traded soya oil, sourced from Brazil, which help moisturize and soften normal to dry skin.

The Chamomile and Soya Cream Bath combines Community Traded soya oil with mild Community Traded chamomile water from Norfolk, England—to gently cleanse and soften the skin.

Oil from fresh ginger root combines with soya oil in Ginger and Soya Cream Bath for a luxurious milky bath.

Buff and polish your body with Quinoa and Soya Body Scrub, a creamy exfoliating body scrub.

Olive oil, renowned throughout history not only for its dietary benefits, but also as an effective skin moisturizer, is the premium collection of the range and includes products presented in glass bottles. The range, which includes Community Traded organic olive oil sourced from the Campania region of Italy, is especially suitable for normal to dry skin.

The Olive and Citrus Bath Oil combines Community Traded organic olive oil with refreshing Community Traded bergamot oil, pressed from organically grown bergamot from Calabria, Italy, for a luxurious bathing experience.

Follow with the light and easily absorbed Olive Dry Oil Mist, which leaves the skin feeling soft, silky and moisturized.

Honey, renowned for being a natural source of goodness, has many beauty benefits that include its soothing and moisturizing qualities. Community Traded organic honey is included in the formulations in this range which is suitable for all skin types.

Almond and Honey Body Lotion combines Community Traded organic honey with soothing almond oil in this luxurious softening body lotion.

Have fun in the bath with our sweet Almond and Honey Fizzy Bath Sugar containing Community Traded organic sugar sourced from Paraguay.

Butter-mania is spreading, as the unique Body Butter range from The Body Shop doubles its numbers with three exciting new additions: Soya, Honey and Mango to join Shea, Nut and Olive Body Butters. The new improved selection of Body Butters makes them a super team of skin nourishers. Pamper yourself with pure and creamy Soya Body Butter for normal to dry skin. Spring back to life with the refreshing, tangy Mango Body Butter for very dry skin, containing mango seed oil and Community Traded cocoa butter to moisturize and soften the skin. Over-indulge in the sweet-smelling Honey Body Butter for all skin types, containing soothing Community Traded organic honey.

Semi-solid, silky smooth and with texture just like butter, Body Butters leave the skin feeling pampered, cared for and luxuriously smooth—this is comfort food for the skin. Ideal for normal to dry to very dry skin types. they are perfect as an overall moisturizer for use after bathing, showering or exfoliating. These are also great for softening tough areas such as elbows, knees and heels. Light on the skin, Body Butters are easily absorbed and leave dry skin rehydrated, supple and smooth.

Silk can smoothen your skin and hair

THE SECRET to effective moisturizing is lasting water retention. Pentavitin, a patented, highly effective moisture "magnet" based on naturally occurring carbohydrates, outperforms all other moisturizing agents. Pentavitin actually binds water in the skin, preventing moisture loss.

Pentavitin is non-sensitizing and non-allergenic. The naturally derived carbohydrate complex found in Pentavitin mimics normal shin chemistry, so compatibility is assured—it attaches securely so it cannot be washed out unlike traditional moisturizers. Pentavitin stays on longer. It moisturizes longer. And the best thing is, you can easily make it work for you—through the new Silka line of moisturizing and firming lotions with the moisture magnet.

What causes uneven skin pigmentation? On the surface, we're looking at a host of possible explanations such as inflammation, excessive sunlight, hormone treatments, aging process, etc. But on a deeper level, we can look internally, under the skin, into the actual process that leads to skin pigmentation. It is a very complex process, a chain of reaction that is all triggered by an enzyme called tyrosinase.

Thus, an effective skin whitening would have to involve shutting down this enzyme. Put simply, stop tyrosinase and you stop skin pigmentation. A new plant-derivative skin-lightening agent, Melfade-J is an effective tyrosinase inhibitor. Scientists stand by actual lab tests and human testing proves its outstanding efficacy.

Silk is highly elastic and is regarded as the strongest natural fiber. It is actually similar to the keratin of the hair, both being fibrous proteins. These properties make derivatives of silk ideal additives for various cosmetic formulations, especially skin and hair-care products. One such derivative is Silkpro.

Silkpro is a liquid type of silk derivative, which consists of hydrolyzed silk amino acids. Incorporated into hair-care products, it imparts a gentle and glossy feel because of its effective absorption and film-forming property. Cosmetique Asia has developed Silka line of soaps, body wash, lotions and shampoos with Silkpro.

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Spellbinding dancer, generous soul

PHOTOS BY CHITO VECINA
PICTORIAL DIRECTION BY ALBERT AVELLANA

Without fanfare, danseur Ernest Mandap has been winning accolades in Europe.
But he still shows utmost humility and dedication to his craft

ANY story about a homegrown talent succeeding abroad is always good news.

Without any publicity, Ernest Sarino Mandap has been working his way to the top of the world. The 28-year-old danseur performs in stadiums, wins prizes in competitions, rubs elbows with the Who's Who in the dance world, restages choreography in major companies, coaches the superstar of the Paris Opera Ballet and shakes hands with the First Lady of France. Here's a world-class talent that we can all be proud of. He works shuttles between the companies of his girlfriend Esther Aumatell and Brumachon-Lamarche, based in Nantes, France.

Ernest may not embody a dancer's ideal classical proportions or the glossy-magazine "It-Boy" appeal. He's short, stocky and ruggedly boyish, crowned with a mop of hair that he maintains for theatrical purposes. Onstage, his physical attributes seem to vanish as he and gravity-defying energy join forces to find subtle poetry in simple emotions. His dancing combines intensity with generosity of scale.

Ernest began dancing in the same way as many danseurs, who had accompanied their sisters to dance classes and ended up joining them. One day, he watched a little boy doing a tap dance on "Sesame Street," and he was soon imitating the child. His mother enrolled him in the dance school where his sister was taking lessons. He took tap lessons with Bing Locsin.

He studied ballet lessons under Noordin Jumalon. When he played Fritz in "The Nutcracker," Ballet Philippines' then artistic director Edna Vida was delighted by Ernest's natural acting. He then got a scholarship at the CCP dance school. He also belonged to the first batch of Ballet Philippines 2, the junior company then led by Agnes Locsin.

Going to France

During an international dance festival, Ernest was entranced by "Shogun," a martial arts ballet performed by the Jeune Ballet de France. When the youth company toured Manila, the ambitious Ernest asked the director if he could work with the JBF for a couple of months to learn "Shogun." JBF later obliged.

Meanwhile, the Brumachon-Lamarche Company came to Manila to show a new kind of dancing. Although the founders, Claude Brumachon and Benjamin Lamarche, had no formal training in dance, they invented a rich and riveting vocabulary based on sculptural yet organic movements and thrusts from body isolations. Because every gesture was always motivated by an emotion, the style electrified you. Quiet passages suddenly turned into sudden explosions of movements. Fascinated by this avant-garde style, Ernest watched the rehearsals and joined the workshop by Brumachon in BP. Brumachon was impressed with the young danseur's clever improvisation and kept him in mind.

In 1991, Ernest, then 18, and a dance major at the University of the Philippines, went to France and stayed with the JBF for a year. The company toured around France and sometimes did two shows a day. The intense training gave the young dancers the courage to audition for professional companies.

Ernest has been with the Brumachon-Lamarche Company for nine years now.

Brumachon wrings out powerful emotions from his dancers that they're not even aware of. He encourages them to draw their motivation from life and the elements. The performers are always propelled to take their performance to a higher level.

The artistic director so trusts Ernest that he is even sent to restage Brumachon's works in major dance companies in Europe.

Outside the Brumachon-Lamarche Company, Ernest also works for the group formed by his girlfriend. He helps Aumatell in the paperwork, conducting classes and getting funds from the state. They manage to hold two jobs by setting their priorities and being focused.

Ernest's calendar is fully booked with local and international tours and teaching schedules, he can't even keep track of them.

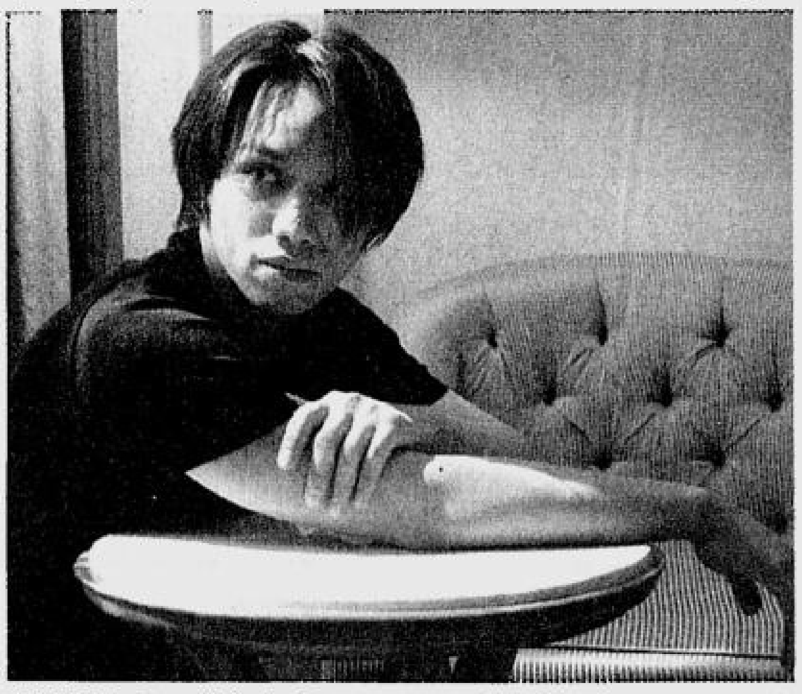
Well bred

Ernest was on holiday when my dance concert "The Traveler" was being mounted. He joined us barely three weeks before the playdate.

My brief encounter with Ernest validated values that I had known all along: that character develops talent (and not the other way around) and that the more accomplished a person is, the humbler he should become.

The first thing that Ernest's former

SPELLBINDING/p.D6



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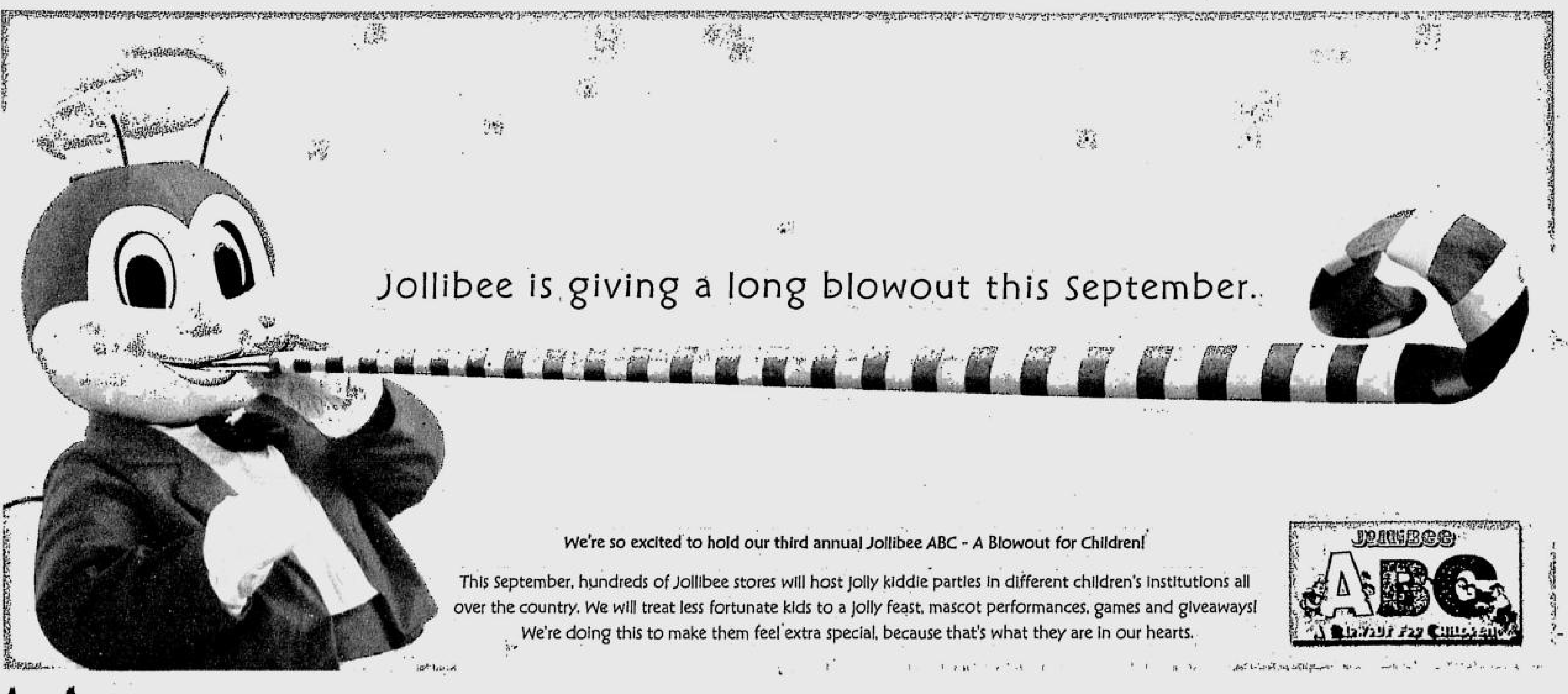

Jollibee is giving a long blowout this September.
We're so excited to hold our third annual Jollibee ABC - A Blowout for Children!
This September, hundreds of Jollibee stores will host jolly kiddie parties in different children's institutions all over the country. We will treat less fortunate kids to a jolly feast, mascot performances, games and giveaways! We're doing this to make them feel extra special, because that's what they are in our hearts.
Jollibee ABC

EARTH colors with a twist by Zegna Sport

POETRY IN MOTION. Ernest Mandap stands out in the garden, wearing a bold, striped shirt and jeans by Paul Smith.

Spellbinding dancer, generous soul

(From page D5)

colleagues in Ballet Philippines commended was his gracious nature more than his prodigious talent. He was well bred, not the way we equate it with high-society social graces.

Ernest said his parents, Ray and Cecille, had inculcated such values as humility. "*Huwag kang yumabang.* Learn as much as you can, and give. *Ganyan ang ugali ng* parents *ko.* That has become natural for me," he said.

He conversed in Tagalog like a regular guy from Bacoor, Cavite. He admitted that his English was fractured, take note, because he thinks and speaks in French like a native.

Although people would rave about him being a sizzling powerhouse onstage, to me, watching him interact with people was more gratifying. He was diplomatic in his speech and was always considerate of other people's feelings. Yet, he maintained the frankness of a Westerner.

Despite his accomplishments, he treated dancers of lesser experience with great respect and saw their value in the show. Other dancers tended to loiter while a colleague was rehearsing in the studio; he would give his full attention to his fellow artist. During the curtain call of the show, when one of the collaborators didn't receive a garland, Ernest came forward and offered his.

"No matter what my position is, if I work or dance with somebody, we are equal. If I look at them differently, it will come out in the performance. There might be a mishap if you don't have good feelings toward each other. I just don't do that for the dance. I just want to have a friend that I can share with. I want to give instead of taking," he said.

Indeed in this rat race, it was refreshing to meet people who held on to old values.

"I see the importance of basic things that we take for granted such as sharing, tolerance, having a conversation, respect, talking when there's misunderstanding," said Ernest.

Confrontation

Working with him was more than enlightening. He interpreted choreography the way a journalist would write an article. If a news story had a peg, followed by paragraphs explaining the slant, to Ernest, a dance should establish an archetype that is buttressed with visceral images to support it.

"Every movement has an image for me that makes sense. I don't do a movement for its own sake. Dancing is like having a conversation with the public because you're offering yourself—your life, your sp[illegible] I want to sha[illegible]. For me, the theater is a sacred [illegible] you don't [illegible] my *kalokohan* (senselessness). [illegible] the place where you can forget all your problems. Nobody can stop you as you can create your universe," he said.

The danseur showed how choreography was transformed without tweaking the steps, merely by playing with rhythmic movement and kinesthetic qualities.

Ernest revealed a playfulness and sincerity in the way he taught. In theater, when performers search for "honesty" in interpretation, it starts with taking a good look at yourself.

The sessions made me confront not only inhibitions about performing. I actually discovered that I had a deep-seated self-restraint in my writing. Everybody knows my passion for dance, a nonverbal medium that complements writing. One is about feelings; the other is about facts. Both are means of self-expression and a good performance and good writing require honesty and the motivation to constantly improve. It had occurred to me that theater people wrote some of the most entertaining articles I had read because they were coming from the heart, and they had no inhibitions.

The whole exercise made me realize that I was deeply ensconced in a comfort zone as a journalist. Wasn't it about time to take up the challenge of taking my journalistic craft to another level? The thought seemed more daunting than performing in front of an audience. There are the challenges of stiff deadlines, limitations in editorial space, publicity hounds and their PRs. Could I draw artistic inspiration from writing about shampoos, anti-aging formulas and the PR's boring clients?

I also learned from him how unself-conscious humility drew attention to itself in a room full of egos.

However, a journalist should never be impressed by the subject matter. For all the wonderful things about Ernest, he has a human side which is well known among his friends. He is easily distracted by anything in a skirt or in a tight outfit. The quirk is harmless though; his girlfriend can sleep peacefully at night.

At this writing, Ernest is traveling in a perpetual orbit around the globe, fulfilling his commitments. Not even he can tell when he's visiting Manila so he can also teach or perform. Hopefully, he is never as far away as we think.

Marge C. Enriquez

BLACK IS BACK. But it never went away. Paul Smith's knit shirt goes well with Glen plaid pants.

SCULPTURAL yet casual in a checkered shirt

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Lecture on stability and health

BRAHMA Kumaris presents "Health and Well-Being" on Sept. 20, 6:30-8 p.m., at the ballroom of Mondragon House, 324 Sen. Gil Puyat Ave., Makati City. Guest speakers include Dr. Nirmala Kajarin and Dr. Jaime Galvez Tan.

Dr. Kajarin completed her medical studies in Bombay, India. In 1962, she decided to incorporate meditation into her treatments and discovered that patients responded better. Dr. Tan is a professor at the University of the Philippines' College of Medicine. He is the president and chief executive officer of Health Futures Foundation Inc., a nonstock, nonprofit foundation engaged in training and research for health and development.

GOINGS-ON

ANNIVERSARY BALL. Quezon Association Inc.'s presidents Rodolfo B. Buendia and Dinah G. Brizuela announce the holding of the 78th anniversary ball of one of the oldest socio-civic associations in the country on Sept. 15 at the Westin Philippine Plaza. A thanksgiving Mass at 6 p.m. with Fr. Thomas Naval as celebrant kicks off the celebration. The officers of the Association will receive the guests, members and their families at 6:45 p.m. to be followed by a formal dinner.

MIDNIGHT SALE. Greenbelt Shopping Plaza joins Ayala Center's "Midnight Madness Sale" today at 10 a.m.-12 m.n., at the Cheap & Chic boutique. Catch the madness in all the shops at the Greenbelt Shopping Plaza.

CONCERT. Greenpeace Southeast Asia will be joining its colleagues around the world in celebrating its 30th year of commitment to the preservation of the environment by launching its new website, www.greenpeacesoutheastasia.org, with a solar energy-powered concert and buffet dinner on Sept. 18, 6:30 p.m. at Suburbia, M. Adriatico Street, Malate. The concert will feature the music of Noel Cabangon and a short video presentation of Greenpeace's regional and global activities and campaigns. Call 434-7034 or 921-8930/8812.

SALE. Play & Display will be holding its first major sale starting today until Sept. 16 with markdown prices at all of its nine branches in Metro Manila.

CONVENTION. The 6th Annual Convention of the Philippine Society for Quality in Healthcare (PSQua) is set on Sept. 17 and 18, at the Bayanihan Hall United Laboratories, 66 United St., Mandaluyong City. Call 924-1845.

BAZAAR. An annual charity bazaar will be held at the Social Hall of the Santuario de San Antonio Parish, Forbes Park, Makati City on Sept. 22. The event will feature the best of local and select imported items at low prices. Call the Philtrade Exhibits at 820-7879/1570.

PROJECT. GMA Foundation's Christmas project, "Give A Gift: Alay Sa Batang Pinoy 2001 (GAG)," will open on Sept. 24, 2 p.m., at Glorietta Activity Center, Makati City. Now on its fourth year, GAG continues with its traditions of advocating the children's right to play and leisure, and making the Christmas of more than 100,000 underprivileged kids nationwide more meaningful. But aside from toys, the gift of education will also be shared through story-reading and interactive activities with the children. Call 928-5087/7021, local 437/438; or fax 928-9351.

MEMBERSHIP SHOPPING. BPI Express Teller, BPI Credit Cards and Express Cash cardholders are being offered an exclusive chance to enjoy "The Great American Shopping Experience" at S&R Price Membership Shopping on Sept.15 and 16.

ACTIVITY. This year's "Furniture Week" will run on Sept.17-23. The seven-day furniture sale will formally open tomorrow, 10 a.m., at the 4/F, Interior Center, Building B, SM Megamall, Mandaluyong City.

PHOTO CONTEST. The National Council for the Welfare of Disabled Persons and the Federation of Philippine Photographers Foundation Inc. (FPPFI) has launched the 5th National Photo Contest on Disability dubbed "Isang Araw sa Buhay ng May K (Kapansanan)." Entries must be submitted to the Contest Secretariat: National Council for the Welfare of Disabled Person's, 2/F SRA Annex Building, North Avenue, Diliman, QC. Call 926-1165/927-5916/920-1503/929-8827.

HK SALE. The October New and Second-Hand Sale in Hong Kong will be on Oct. 8-13, at Hong Kong Exhibition Center, Room 404-406, 4/F, Low Block, China Resource Building, 26 Harbour Road, Wanchai, Hong Kong. Call (852) 2543-3313 or e-mail thevenue@netvigator.com.

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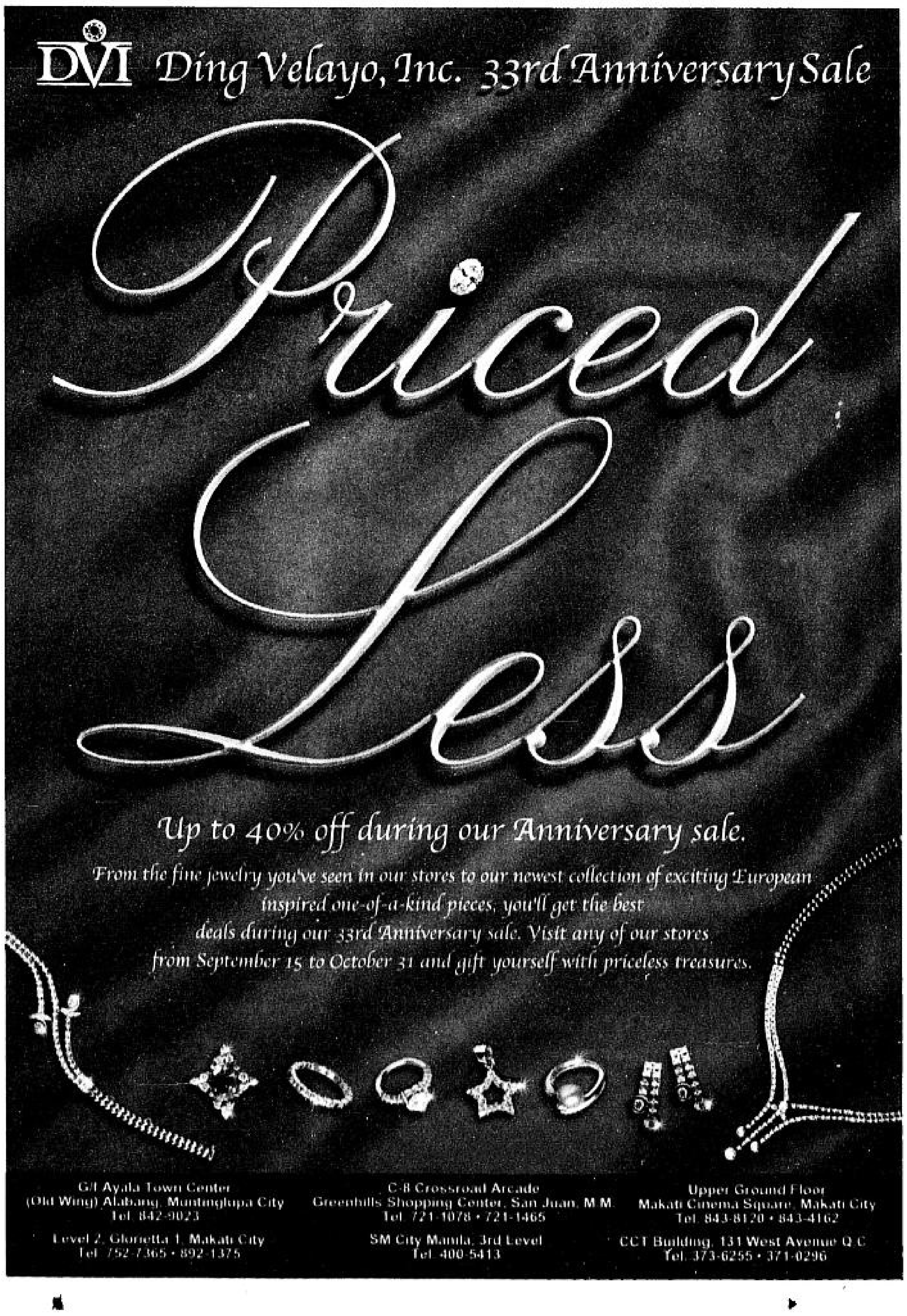
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Jollibee Journal

ANOTHER JOLLIBEE BUZZES IN TARLAC

Leading the way to another Jollibee store!

Jollibee continues to conquer Tarlac! It recently opened its 3rd store, located conveniently at the McArthur Hi-way corner Juan Luna Street. Tarlac residents find this a cause for celebration, because they have more chances of experiencing the langhap-sarap goodness that only Jollibee can offer.

The store's blessing was officiated by Bishop Florendo Cinense. The ribbon-cutting ceremony, on the other hand, was led by Ms. Lines Briones (Operations Manager), Councilor Ana Aguas, Jollibee, and Mr. Jose 'Pepot' Miñana (Regional Business Unit Head, North Luzon).

BEEZY BODIES PERK UP JOLLIBEE MORNINGS

Keeping fit has never been this fun! Thanks to Jollibee!

"*Keep fit, stay young!*" This is the motto of the Greenhills Beezy Bodies Fitness Club, an organization of health buffs who initiated an exercise program in cooperation with Jollibee. Aside from being a great freebie, it is open to all. It is conducted from 6:00 to 7:30 am on weekends in front of Jollibee Greenhills by a professional instructor from Slimmers World.

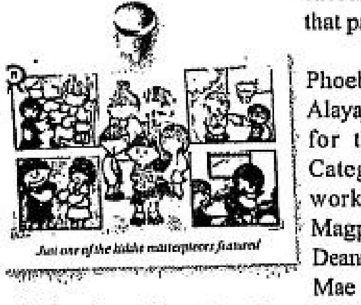
With great exercise and a hearty Jolly breakfast, Jollibee-goers can't help but stay fit and healthy!

YOUNG CEBU ARTISTS SHOWCASE THEIR TALENTS

Jollibee leads the exhibit's ribbon-cutting ceremony.

The launch of Jollibee's "Kaya Mong. Magbigay-Saya, Kid!" mixed media art contest proved to be a resounding success as it received thousands of entries nationwide.

In Region 7, ninety-six entries from different schools in Central Visayas vied for the regional finals. The artworks were displayed from August 27 to September 3, 2001 at SM City, Cebu. This event was supported by DECS. Cebu's Division Supervisor, Mila Ouano, gave her encouragement to all the schools that participated.


Just one of the kiddie masterpieces featured

Phoebe Boncaras and Mylen Alayajae from Mandaue School for the Arts shone in the Category A level with their work entitled "Kaya Mong Magpasaya, Kid." Likewise, Deanreb Panaligan and Alyanna Mae Manching of Science and Technology Education Center of Lapulapu City won in the Category B level with their entry, "Magtanim Tayo Para sa Kinabukasan ng Mundo."

The national semi-finals will be held on September 24, 2001 at Powerbooks, Arnaiz Ave., Makati City.

JOLLIBEE EXCLAIMS "Viva La Virgen!"

As September unfolds, Jollibee participates in the occasion closest to the hearts of Bicolanos, the Feast of Our Lady of Peñafrancia. The procession traverses Jollibee Naga, which is also celebrating its anniversary. Different barangays from Bicol parade eye-catching floats to the delight of spectators.

Other revelries being held during the Peñafrancia Festival include a military parade, as well as the much-awaited "Little Miss Bicolandia" and the regional dance showdown.

Jollibee beams with Little Miss Bicolandia winners

Indeed, Jollibee unites with Bicolanos in their most important celebration during the year. This is just another way by which Jollibee continues to share, not just delicious food, but also the spirit of celebration.

For feedback, comments, or suggestions, please write to:
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STARGAZING AT LOUIE Y'S. DJ Boyet Almazan, Wopsy Zamora, Louie Y and Chito Melo

They've got the power

TEXT AND PHOTOS
BY TIM YAP

"The most aging thing when you talk about personal style is 'no' and the youngest is 'yes.' I think it is so important to say 'yes.' To have curiosity, energy, to want to know everything, to be a Bright, Young Thing. There is nothing more aging than to be idle..."
—Oscar de la Renta

"YOU see, they call us *Tito*! Who wants to go to a bar to see friends of their dads or, worse, their dads themselves?" carped a weary partyphile upon seeing a much younger guest greet his companion.

LEO Valdez

As pointed out by the "Target Market" ads of this year's ad congress focusing on "senior citizens," old adults—okay, the baby boomers—are a force to reckon with. They have power—spending or otherwise.

"This, this, this or this?" An undecided **Jaime Fabregas** chooses from different styles of wigs in a shop, assisted by a snooty salesman. Then, on an impulse, he declares: "I'll buy everything!"

While I do write a column on the adventures and misadventures of the young, with empowerment as my main mission, I have never denied the capacity and achievements of those who came before us. I treat them with utmost respect and admiration. My most interesting talks have always been with those who have witnessed recent history unfold, the grandeur and decadence of the scene. Lessons learned from the past inspire me no end.

Society black book

Platinum Vault, sole distributor of Patron Tequila, considered the world's finest tequila (made of 100 percent Weaber Tequilana Blue Agave—sounds expensive), invited me through nightlife royalty **Louie Ysmael** to an exclusive dinner for tequila drinkers.

I went to Le Soufflé at the Fort on a rainy night where a gastronomic feast was prepared for debut of this premium tequila. The party brought together 20 or so movers and shakers, distinguished, "young looking" (okay, now they are gonna love me) gentlemen, captains of different industries. Their names would have made the city's black book of high rollers and eligible bachelor list—decades ago. (Some of them are bachelors again, or were feeling bachelor-like that night—now they're gonna kill me.)

I sat beside the youngest of the industry bigwigs, **Mickey Cojuangco**, a fine gentleman whose taste in clothes I so admired. He was wearing a BCBG shirt with a pleat on each sleeve. Talking to him was like talking to your coolest *tito* (oops, that word again).

As the night progressed, looking at the distinguished group the Platinum Vault assembled, I could not help pointing out to another seatmate how refreshing it was to see all these men, like vintage (I know they don't like the word) wine, aged to perfection. All together, they looked like mature teenagers having a great meal together.

It disproveds the theory we had as kids, you know, how we always thought growing old would feel different. Yes, you learn more, experience more, but we are still basically the same people at 15 or 51.

Then, the girls arrived. The men stood up to offer their seats to the lovely ladies. Chivalry is not dead. It made me want to tell each of them, "When I grow up, I want to be like you, *tito*!" But I stopped myself lest a numbered bottle (yes, it's *that* exclusive, a collector's item, in fact) of Patron Tequila would be hurled at me.

Old school music

From there, I headed for Venezia that Thursday for "Stargazing at Louie Y's"—an '80s dance party for all ye old school music lovers. It was Madonna worship time there.

Friends whom I hadn't seen for a long time showed up. It was a great crowd as twentysomethings mixed effortlessly with the fortysomethings.

Some women even went up and danced on the bar, proving that you do not have to be a prepubescent model to do these things. Later in the night, I danced with two gorgeous women. When I looked at them closely, I realized they were the mothers of my friends! But hey, so what? They were beautiful and we were having fun. That was all that mattered.

Now, there are more than a handful of places and events catering to the mature set who "loved music when music was music." Aside from the monthly "Stargazing at Louie Y's" at Venezia, the Spirit of 67 draws a huge crowd of partyphiles every Tuesday at Dish and Thursdays at Conways.

Starting mid-September, Louie, the innovator that he is, will devote Monday night at Venezia to '60s music. Expect to hear Beatles, Zombies and Everly Brothers hits to be played.

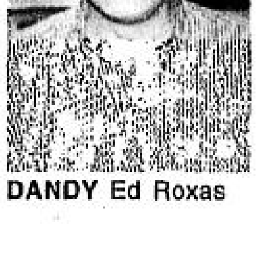
So, to us younger readers, the next time we bump into our Dad, Mom, *tito* or *tita* in a bar or club, just grab a drink and offer them a toast, "Cheers!"

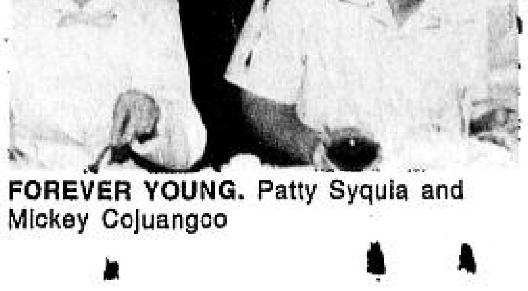
PLATINUM VAULT. Benjie Sevilla and Edvee Cruz

STYLE AND SUBSTANCE. Conrad Onglao and Bernie Concepcion

DASHING. Boy Padiernos and Iñigo Zobel

BLUE BOYS. Choy Cojuangco and Monch Cruz


DANDY Ed Roxas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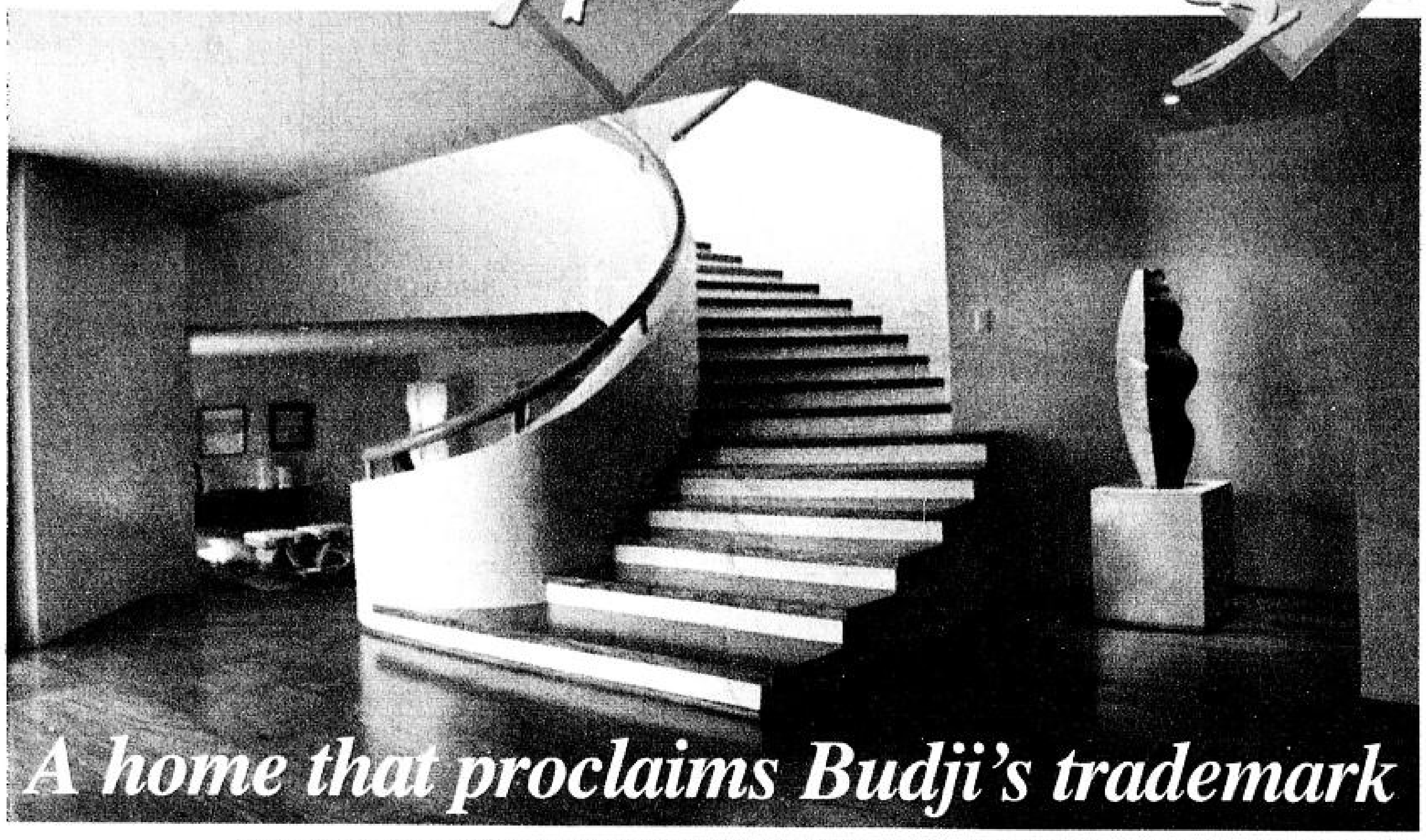
LIFESTYLE

Home | Trend Spotting



A home that proclaims Budji's trademark

BUDJI Layug makes a statement with this staircase in the home he built for a young couple. Its grace and boldness are emphasized by the fact that the other side has no baluster, and by the wide narra planks and Impy Pilapil's statue.

The designer's first residence is based on the precept that form follows function

vpl

(Story on page E5)

(Story on page E5)

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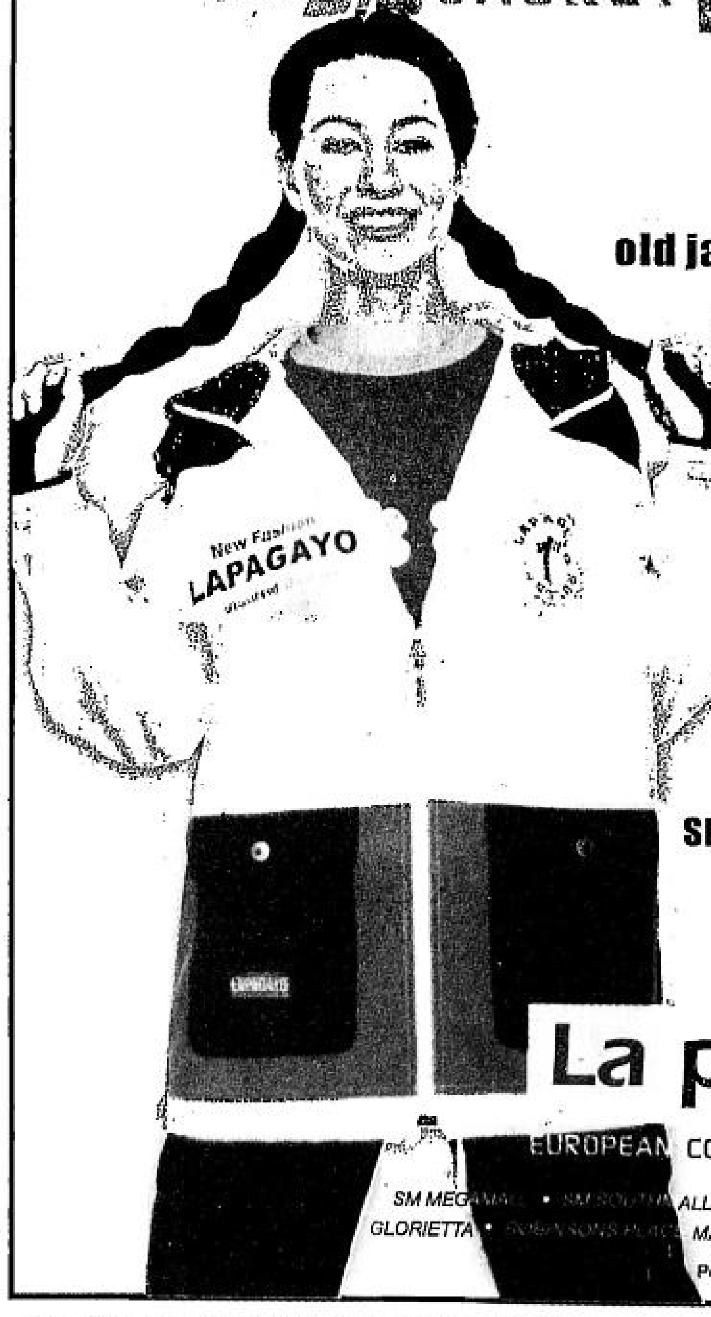

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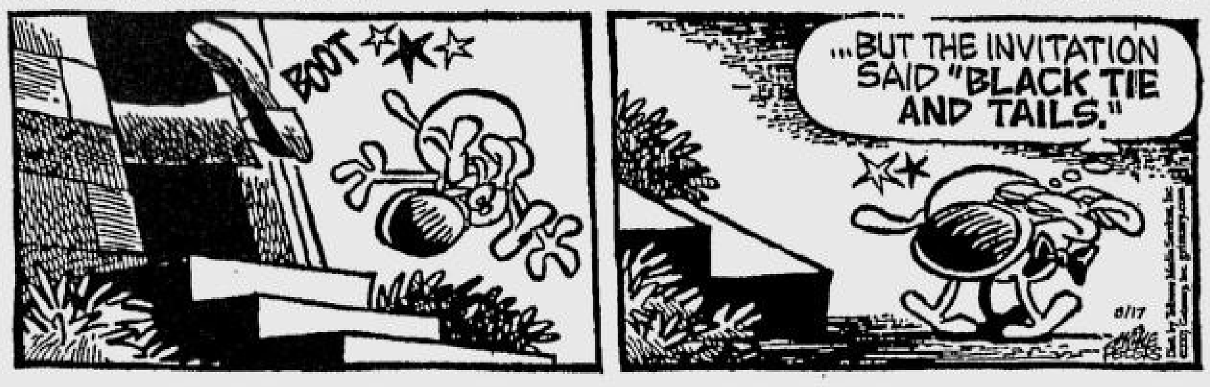
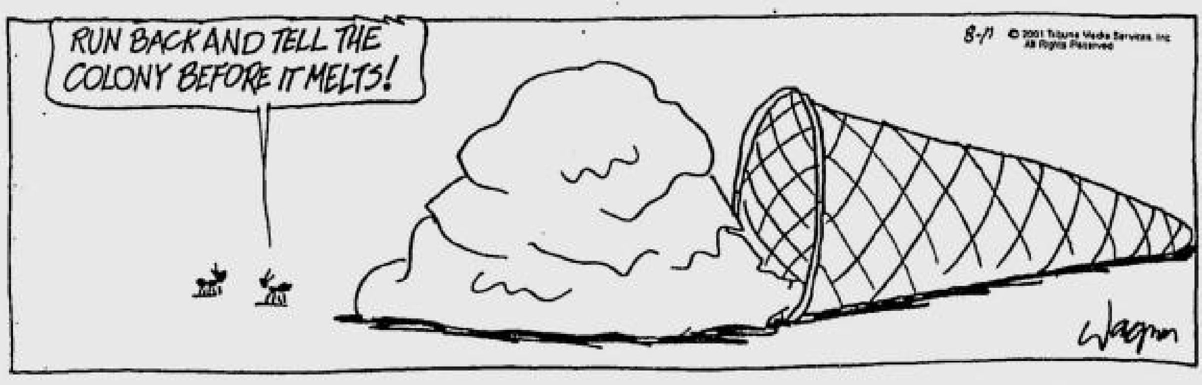
MOTHER GOOSE & GRIMM

BY MIKE PETERS


BOOT
...BUT THE INVITATION SAID "BLACK TIE AND TAILS."
8/17

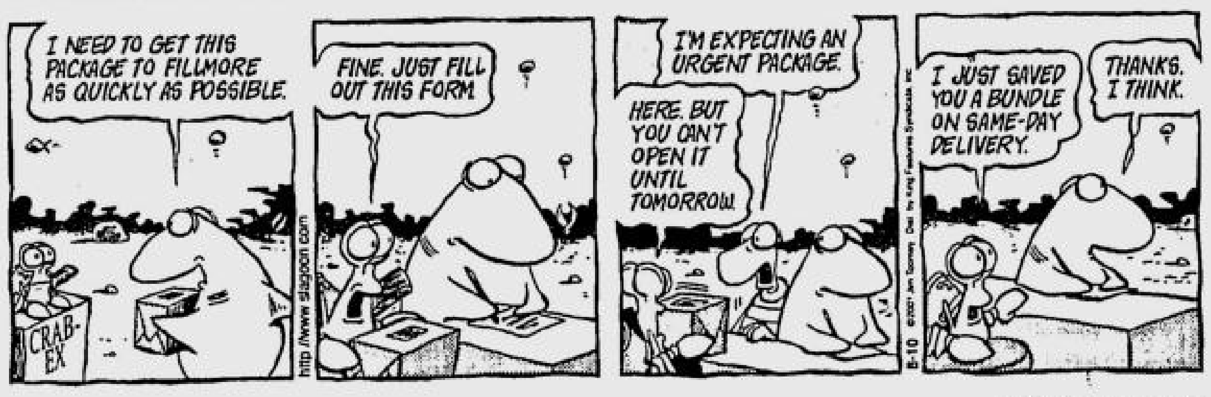
ANIMAL CRACKER

BY FRED WAGNER


RUN BACK AND TELL THE COLONY BEFORE IT MELTS!
8-11 © 2001 Tribune Media Services, Inc. All Rights Reserved
Wagner

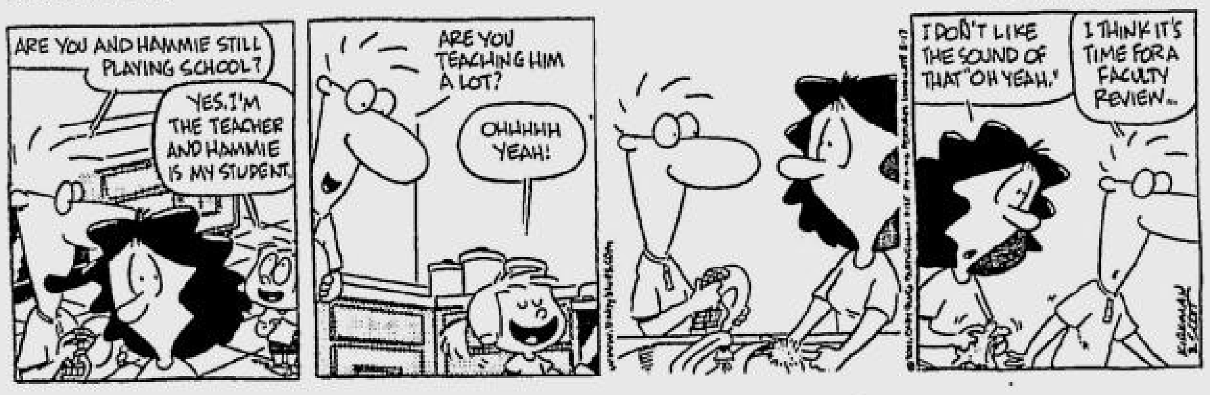
SHERMAN'S LAGOON

BY JIM TOOMEY


I NEED TO GET THIS PACKAGE TO FILLMORE AS QUICKLY AS POSSIBLE.
CRAB-EX
FINE. JUST FILL OUT THIS FORM.
http://www.slagoon.com
I'M EXPECTING AN URGENT PACKAGE.
HERE. BUT YOU CAN'T OPEN IT UNTIL TOMORROW.
8-10
I JUST SAVED YOU A BUNDLE ON SAME-DAY DELIVERY.
THANKS. I THINK.

BABY BLUES

BY JERRY SCOTT


ARE YOU AND HAMMIE STILL PLAYING SCHOOL?
YES. I'M THE TEACHER AND HAMMIE IS MY STUDENT.
ARE YOU TEACHING HIM A LOT?
OHHHHH YEAH!
I DON'T LIKE THE SOUND OF THAT "OH YEAH."
I THINK IT'S TIME FOR A FACULTY REVIEW...
KIRKMAN & SCOTT

HOROSCOPE

BY EUGENIA LAST

CELEBRITIES BORN ON THIS DAY: Sam Neill, Joe Penny, Faith Ford, Mary Frances Crosby, Nicol Williamson

Happy Birthday: You will not be alone, but many people close to you will need your comfort and help this year. Be prepared to put time aside for yourself and for family. Balance will be the answer. It is time to stop being a martyr and start being smart. You can help others without letting yourself become drained or taking the brunt of existing problems. Your numbers: 9, 16, 22, 29, 36, 48

ARIES (March 21-April 19): A move or change is evident. Existing problems will be eliminated if you follow through with your plans. Uncertainties that have been hanging over your head will end.

TAURUS (April 20-May 20): You've been working too hard. It may be time to take a break. Someone who loves you will be happy if you decide to spend more time with him or her. A vacation may be in order.

GEMINI (May 21-June 20): You may like to talk, but don't give out information about someone who trusted your integrity. You stand to lose not only a friend, but also your reputation if you spill the beans.

CANCER (June 21-July 22): You will tune in to other people's problems easily today. Don't be blind, however, to the problems that exist in your own backyard.

LEO (July 23-Aug. 22): Your desire to have everyone love you will cause friction when the truth is known. Tread carefully to avoid hurting others. Two-timing never leads to a worthwhile relationship.

VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22): You will be gullible today. Don't believe everything you hear. Take the blinders off and view things as they really are. You may need to make changes.

LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 22): Bend over backward to smooth things over between you and someone you care about. You'll feel terrible if you don't try to salvage the friendship or relationship.

SCORPIO (Oct. 23-Nov. 21): Exotic destinations are beckoning. Even if you can't get away, dreaming will be a relaxing outlet. Researching the ideal vacation is an incentive to make it come true.

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22-Dec. 21): Your willingness to help others in the past will be repaid now if you ask. Make plans to renovate or redecorate your home.

CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19): Expect opposition if you take for granted that everyone will be happy to follow your suggestions. You'd better get the OK from those who will be affected before going ahead with your plans.

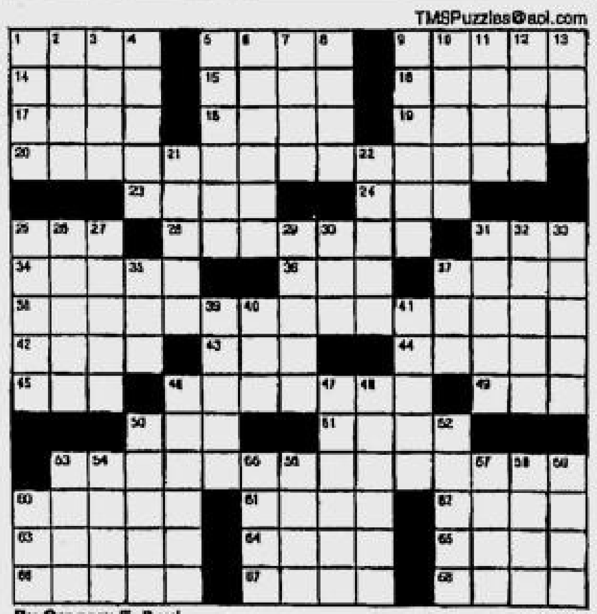
AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 18): You will enjoy the company of colleagues outside of work. The better you get along, the better you'll do at work.

PISCES (Feb. 19-March 20): Someone may not be telling the whole story. Back up and consider what the truth might be before making any decision to help. You don't want to be an accomplice to a distasteful undertaking.

Birthday Baby: Practice taking bows because you'll be taking a whole lot of them throughout life. You are engaging, playful and often the center of attention. Everyone will smile with you.

DAILY CROSSWORD

TMSPuzzles@aol.com



By Gregory E. Paul
Scottdale, PA

7/31/01

ACROSS
1 Block up
5 Mountain in Thessaly
9 Painter of ballet dancers
14 Abode of buzzers
15 Females
16 The lesser of two ___
17 Utopia
18 Old sailors
19 Niagara draw
20 An eternity
23 Ginger cookie
24 Cool down
25 Now I get it!
28 Heighten
31 Silly billy
34 French law of succession to the throne
36 NYC summer hrs.
37 Inland sea of Asia
38 An eternity
42 Writer Murdoch
43 GE acquisition in 1986
44 Greek fabler
45 Cereal grass
46 Pride member
49 Take in food
50 Neon or argon
51 Oxford or wingtip
53 An eternity
60 Tippy transportation
61 Actor Baldwin
62 Expand
63 John or John Quincy
64 Submerged
65 Verdi opera
66 Religious belief
67 Golf shop giveaways
68 Gather in

DOWN
1 Cook
2 Venice beach
3 Beyond
4 Hereditary units
5 Of bone
6 Sterling of the NFL
7 Inoculants
8 Org.
9 Vandalize
10 Avoid capture
11 Mojave monster?
12 Accomplice
13 Draft letters
21 Style of sweater
22 Same again
25 Out of bed
26 Unshaven
27 Former Yankee pitcher Reynolds
29 Total vegetarian
30 Tack on
31 Got up
32 Pacific Island group
33 Snoozed
35 They: Fr.
37 Top pilot
39 Type of setter
40 Sgt., e.g.
41 ___-Dixon line
46 Right up-to-date
47 Ancient Jewish ascetic
48 Exclamation of mild annoyance
50 Folklore creature
52 Mystery award
53 Fabricated
54 Son of Judah
55 Tobacco kiln
56 Chimney passage
57 Indy-winner Luyendyk
58 'Star Wars' character
59 Trade
60 Hep dude

PREVIOUS PUZZLE ANSWER

M	A	S	H	■	S	C	H	M	O	■	B	A	S	S
A	S	I	A	■	C	L	O	M	P	■	A	L	T	O
O	P	A	L	■	H	A	L	L	E	■	M	A	I	L
R	I	M	■	H	U	M	M	I	N	G	B	I	R	D
I	C	E	L	E	S	S	■	■	B	O	O	■	■	■
■	■	S	A	M	S	■	S	H	O	W	O	F	F	S
L	E	E	D	S	■	S	W	O	O	N	■	L	O	A
A	R	C	S	■	W	H	E	L	K	■	L	Y	O	N
P	G	A	■	A	H	E	A	D	■	S	O	I	L	S
P	O	T	R	O	A	S	T	■	M	A	I	N	■	■
■	■	■	A	N	T	■	■	G	O	I	N	G	O	N
B	A	S	S	E	T	H	O	U	N	D	■	F	R	Y
E	X	E	C	■	H	A	B	I	T	■	D	I	A	L
E	L	L	A	■	E	L	I	D	E	■	O	S	L	O
F	E	L	L	■	N	O	T	E	S	■	W	H	E	N

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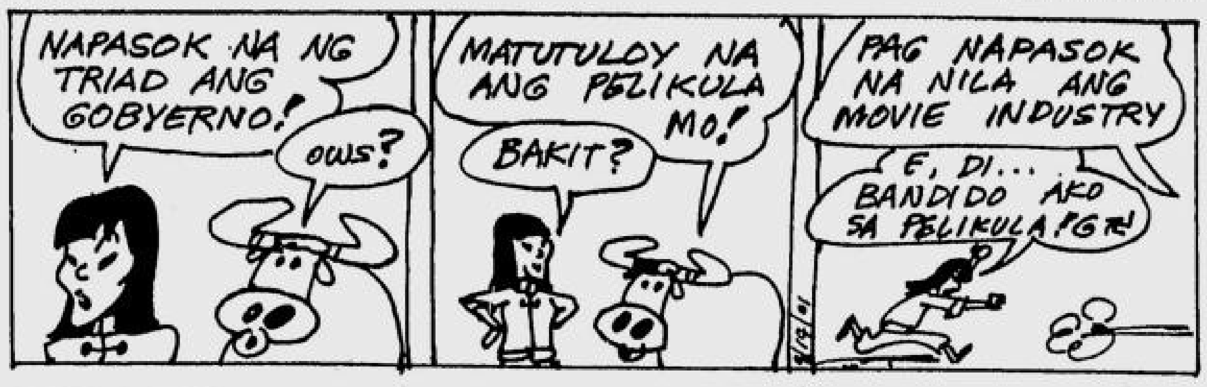
7/31/01

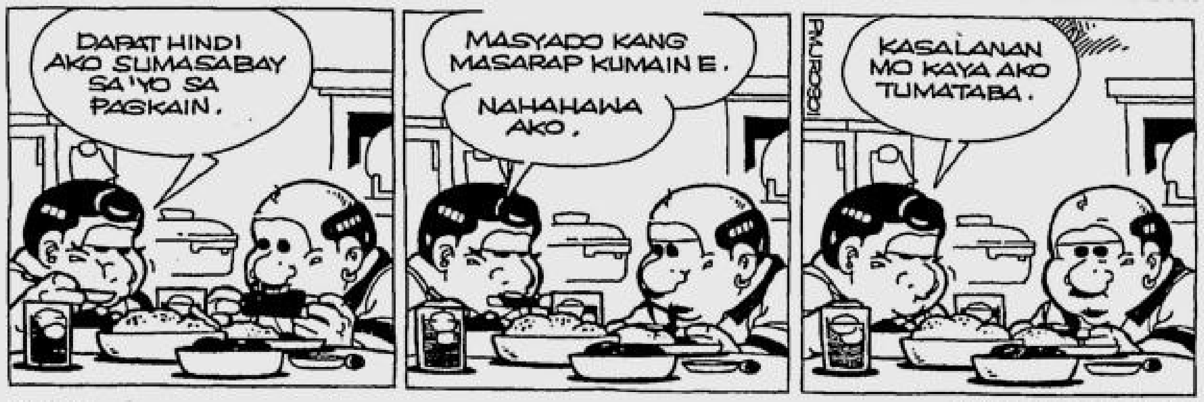
A. LIPIN

BY JESS ABRERA


NAPASOK NA NG TRIAD ANG GOBYERNO!
OWS?
MATUTULOY NA ANG PELIKULA MO!
BAKIT?
PAG NAPASOK NA NILA ANG MOVIE INDUSTRY
E, DI... BANDIDO AKO SA PELIKULA! GR!

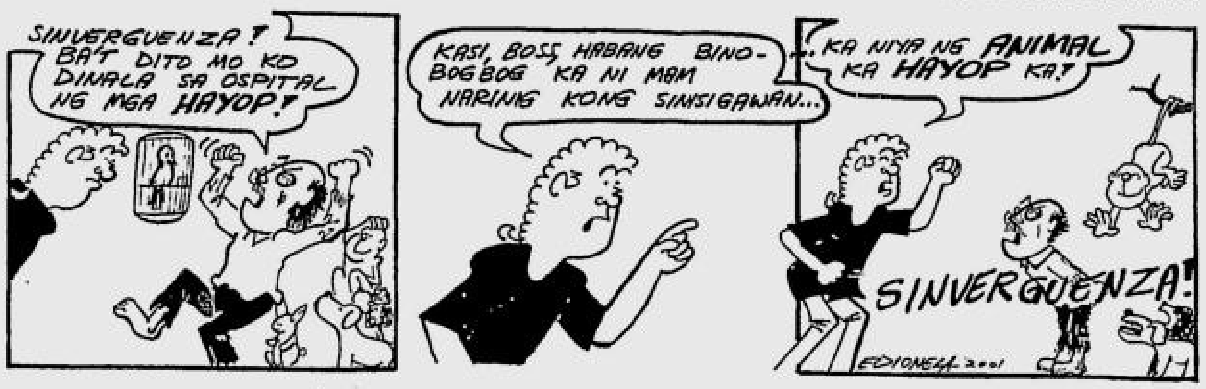
PUGAD BABOY

BY P.M. JUNIOR


DAPAT HINDI AKO SUMASABAY SA'YO SA PAGKAIN.
MASYADO KANG MASARAP KUMAIN E.
NAHAHAWA AKO.
PMJR0901
KASALANAN MO KAYA AKO TUMATABA.

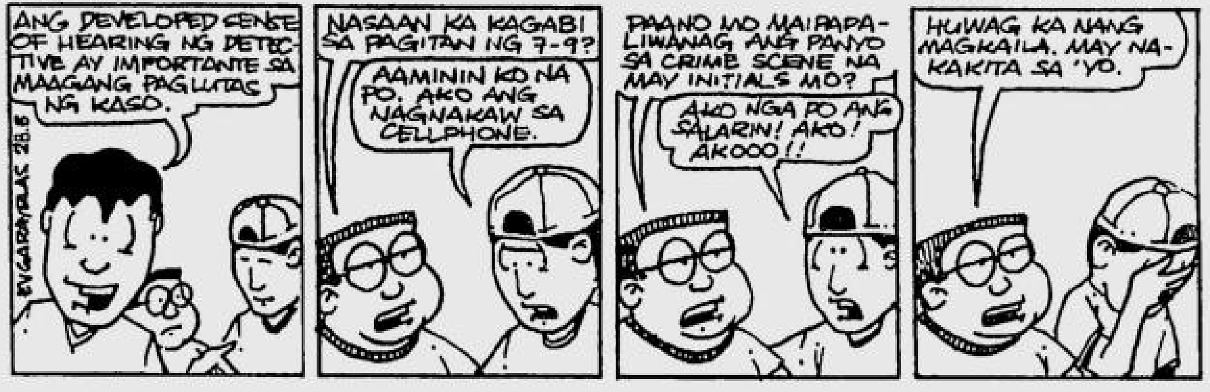
SIMO

BY EDGAR DIONELA


SINVERGUENZA! BA'T DITO MO KO DINALA SA OSPITAL NG MGA HAYOP!
KASI, BOSS HABANG BINO-BOGBOG KA NI MAM NARINIG KONG SINISIGAWAN...
...KA NIYA NG ANIMAL KA HAYOP KA!
SINVERGUENZA!
EDIONELA 2001

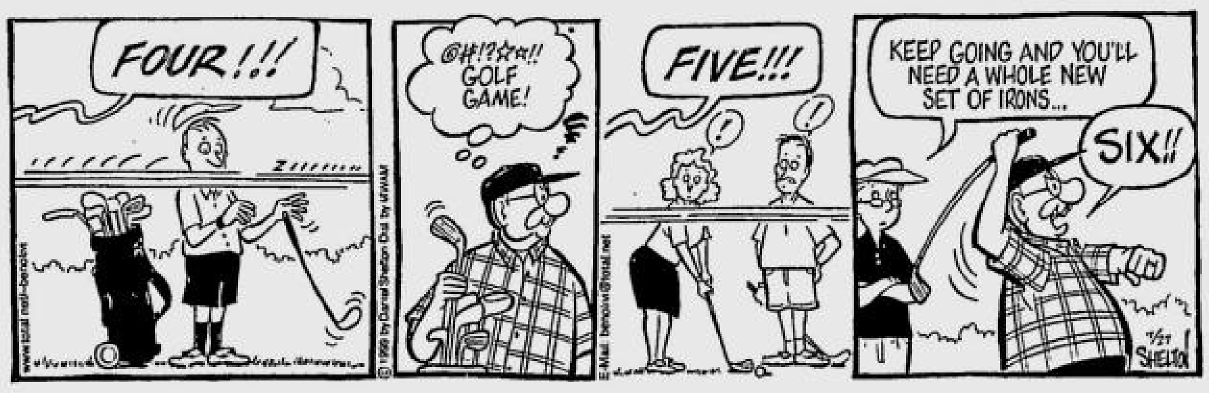
B1 GANG

BY ATS11/ JEA/ FEVG


ANG DEVELOPED SENSE OF HEARING NG DETEC-TIVE AY IMPORTANTE SA MAAGANG PAGLUTAS NG KASO.
EVGARAYBLAS 28.8
NASAAN KA KAGABI SA PAGITAN NG 7-9?
AAMININ KO NA PO. AKO ANG NAGNAKAW SA CELLPHONE.
PAANO MO MAIPAPA-LIWANAG ANG PANYO SA CRIME SCENE NA MAY INITIALS MO?
AKO NGA PO ANG SALARIN! AKO! AKOOO!!
HUWAG KA NANG MAGKAILA. MAY NA-KAKITA SA 'YO.

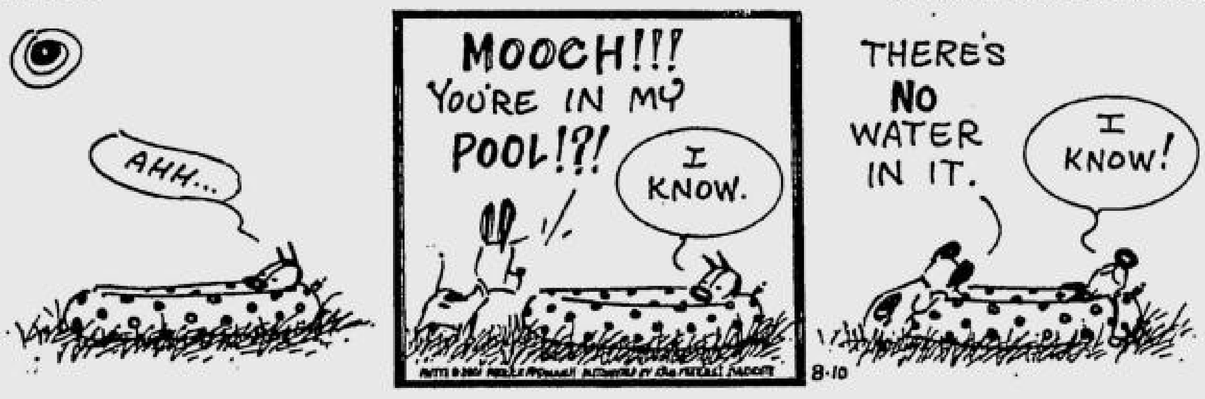
BEN

BY DANIEL SHELTON


FOUR!!!
@#!?☆☆!! GOLF GAME!
FIVE!!!
KEEP GOING AND YOU'LL NEED A WHOLE NEW SET OF IRONS...
SIX!!
7/27 SHELTON

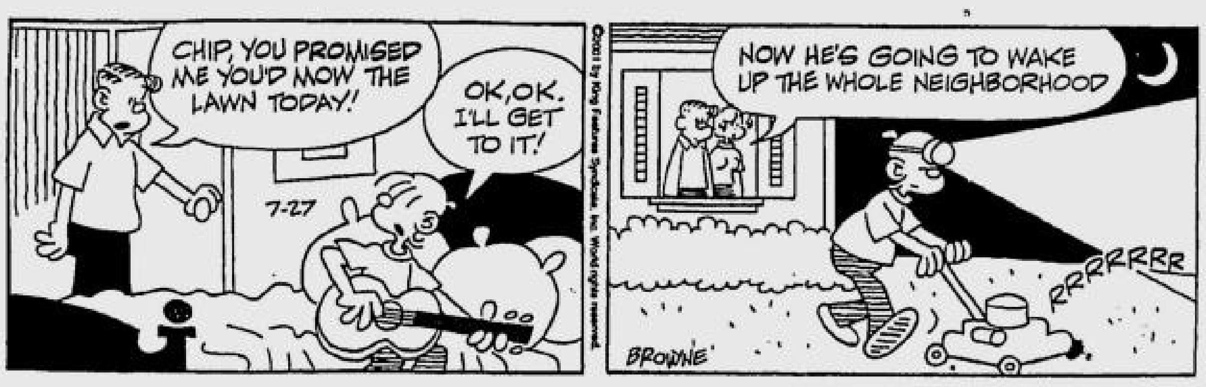
MUTTS

BY PATRICK McDONNELL


AHH...
MOOCH!!! YOU'RE IN MY POOL!?!
I KNOW.
THERE'S NO WATER IN IT.
I KNOW!
8-10

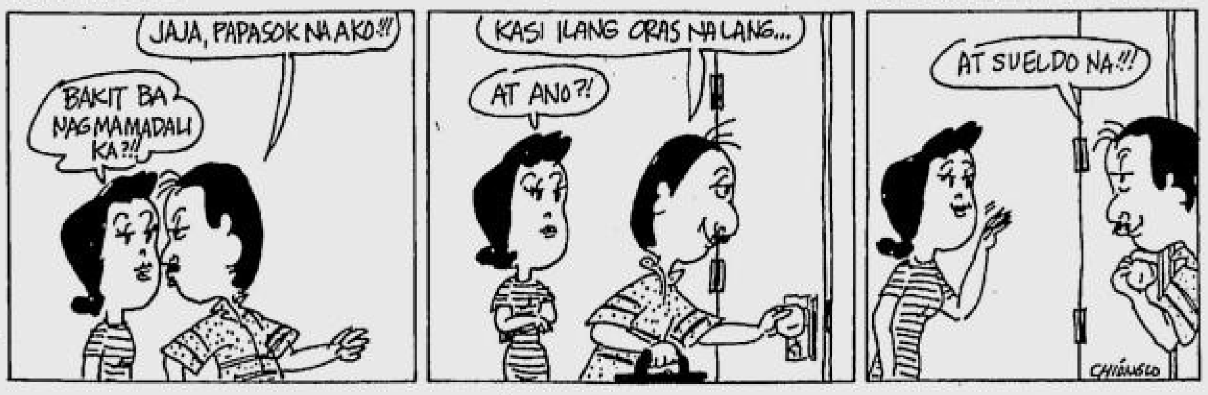
HI AND LOIS

BY BRIAN & GREG WALKER


CHIP, YOU PROMISED ME YOU'D MOW THE LAWN TODAY!
OK, OK. I'LL GET TO IT!
7-27
NOW HE'S GOING TO WAKE UP THE WHOLE NEIGHBORHOOD
RRRRRRR
BROWNE

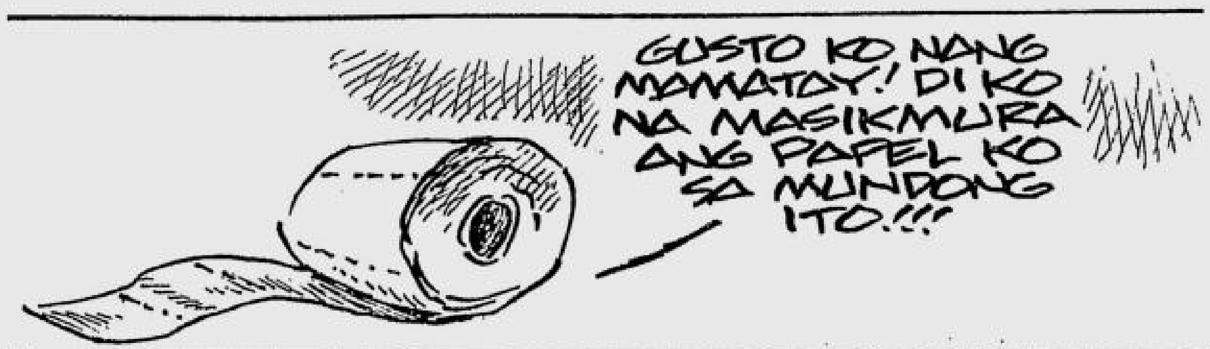
LOVEKNOTS

BY ELIZABETH CHIONGLO


JAJA, PAPASOK NA AKO!!!
BAKIT BA NAGMAMADALI KA?!!
KASI ILANG ORAS NA LANG...
AT ANO?!
AT SUELDO NA!!!
CHIONGLO

TULDOK

BY PAPU & TATUM MILAMBILING


GUSTO KO NANG MAMATAY! DI KO NA MASIKMURA ANG PAPEL KO SA MUNDONG ITO!!!

Paean to Bulacan's craft and charms

BY DONNIE C. RAMIREZ

GOV. Tony Leviste, Tessie Villarama, Sen. Blas Ople, Gov. Josie de la Cruz, Bienvenido R. Tantoco Sr., Rep. Reylina Nicolas of Bulacan

RUSTAN'S celebration of its 50th anniversary heats up with the launch of one of its biggest in-store promos, "Fiesta Bulakeña." The two-week long festival pays tribute to the artistry of the Bulakeños as manifested in their arts, crafts and cuisine. The Our Very Own Section of Rustan's Makati and the fourth floor of Rustan's Tower at Shangri-La Plaza Mall were temporarily cleared up to make space for the Bulacan products on sale during the fiesta, as well as for the various exhibits and activities.

A pet project of Rustan's patriarch, Ambassador **Bienvenido Tantoco Sr.**, and his daughter, **Nedy**, who is the incumbent president of Club Bulakeño, the event is fully backed by the provincial government of Bulacan, Bulacan Chamber of Commerce and Industry and the province's Tourism Council. Also supporting the project are Bulakeño artist **Al Perez** and the Lakan Sining Group, the Meycauayan Jewelry Industries Association and Simbulan Industries.

Some of the Bulacan products offered are hand-painted Spanish *avanicos*, contemporary furniture pieces with intricate bone inlays, wrought-iron candleholders and vases, resin angels and exquisite jewelry.

For the sweet tooth, there is an array of popular Bulacan sweets and delicacies like the world-famous *pastillas de leche*, *macapuno* balls, *lengua de gato*, tamales, *ensaymada* with salted eggs and dried chili *dilis*.

All throughout the fiesta, there will be demonstrations on *pastillas* wrapper-cutting, *buntal* hat-weaving, *puni* leaf art and *singkaban* (art of making bamboo *arcos*). There is also an exhibit of antique Sto. Niño images, some dating back to the 18th century, and paintings by Lakan Sining artists like **Joya, Malang, Cenon Rivera, Soler Santos,** Al Perez, **Ramon Hilario** and **Nap Trono**.

Spicing up the promo is the Premio Bulakeño raffle where attractive prizes like a pair *butakas* (plantation chairs), an original painting by Al Perez and a set of sterling silver tambourine necklace, earrings and *paineta* will be given away.

At the opening, Bulacan Gov. **Josie de la Cruz** said that Rustan's "Fiesta Bulakeña" coincides with the celebration of Linggo ng Bulacan. "Before, the celebration was only within the province. But now, we want to involve other people from outside Bulacan. After all, a fiesta is much happier when you have more people celebrating with you," she said.

Responding on behalf of his family, Rustan Commercial Corp. president **Rico Tantoco** said that "Fiesta Bulakeña" is Rustan's way of supporting the local cottage industry. "Rustan's has always been a dedicated patron and supporter of our local craftsmen and artisans. Our Filipiniana section has always provided a showcase for the very best of Philippine products, helping them achieve national and international exposure and acceptance."

Prominent sons and daughters of Bulacan came en masse to the opening. In addition to Governor De la Cruz, there was also Sen. **Blas Ople**, former Gov. **Obet Pagdanganan**, Rep. **Reylina Nicolas** and congressional spouse **Tessie Villarama**, who represented her husband **Willy**. Other dignitaries were Sen. **Loi Estrada**, Italian Ambassador **Umberto Colesanti**, Sen. **Tessie Oreta**, Makati Rep. **Butz Aquino**, retailing taipan **Henry Sy** and Nedy's friends from Club Bulakeña and Phil-Italia Association.

The sumptuous *merienda cena* of traditional Bulacan cuisine was prepared by 78-year-old chef **Milagros Enriquez**, the acknowledged master of authentic Bulakeño cuisine, and **Nena Jacinto** of D'Swan Catering. A magnificent fireworks show capped the successful opening.

Movie magic is back

THE SHUTDOWN of Louie's THX Cinema, which held a tearful goodbye last week via a marathon screening of four Hollywood blockbusters, has created a void among movie buffs who like to watch their favorite films with all the high-tech reality of state-of-the-art sounds and picture projection.

Outside of the Glorietta 4 cinemas and its sister cineflex at the Greenbelt Mall, few theaters are equipped with the modern gizmos that create movie magic, like what Louie's offered to its clients.

The recent opening of Robinsons Movieworld galleria is therefore welcome news to cineastes and discriminating moviegoers. The multimillion-peso project included major renovations on the six existing cinemas and the construction of four additional screens. Complementing the setup is a spacious theme lobby with a giant videowall and an array of food shops where moviegoers can chill out in-between screenings of films.

"Movie magic is back," enthused **Leo F. Hernandez**, Movieworld galleria's general manager. "A lot of attention was given to acoustical response and picture quality, which can provide the audience a real-life experience every time they watch a movie."

The inaugural hoopla replicated the glamour and excitement of a Hollywood premier. Shashaying in the lobby and mingling with the crowd were impersonators dressed as Hollywood icons, while **Boy Abunda** and **Kris Aquino** emceed a lively program featuring the Freeverse and Passage Bands.

Among the celebrities noted were breakout bold sensation **Assunta da Rossi**, funny girl **Rufa Mae Quinto**, Congress Spice Boy **Migs Zubiri**, youthful QC councilors **Bong Suntay** and **Lala Sotto**, Piadina's **Giorgio** and **Tetta (nee Ortiz) Matera**, architect **William Coscolluela**, actors **Jeffrey Quizon** and **Mark Anthony Fernandez**, style-setter **Tessa Prieto-Valdes**, film producer and distributor **Wilson Tieng** and Tater's Stadia's **Annie Tanchangco**.

They were warmly welcomed by Robinsons Land Corp. president **James L. Go** and senior VP **Frederick Go**, Movieworld director for marketing **Bomboy Lim**, Big R Supercenter marketing services officer **Tiffany Aragon** and Gokongwei scions **Lance** and **Jay Gokongwei** and **Robina Pe**.

ITALIAN Ambassador Umberto Colesanti

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Spa, Siamese style, in harried Manila

You can now enjoy the benefits of the famous Mandarin Oriental Spa of Bangkok right at the Manila Mandarin

PHOTOS BY CHITO VECINA
PICTORIAL DIRECTION BY ALBERT AVELLANA

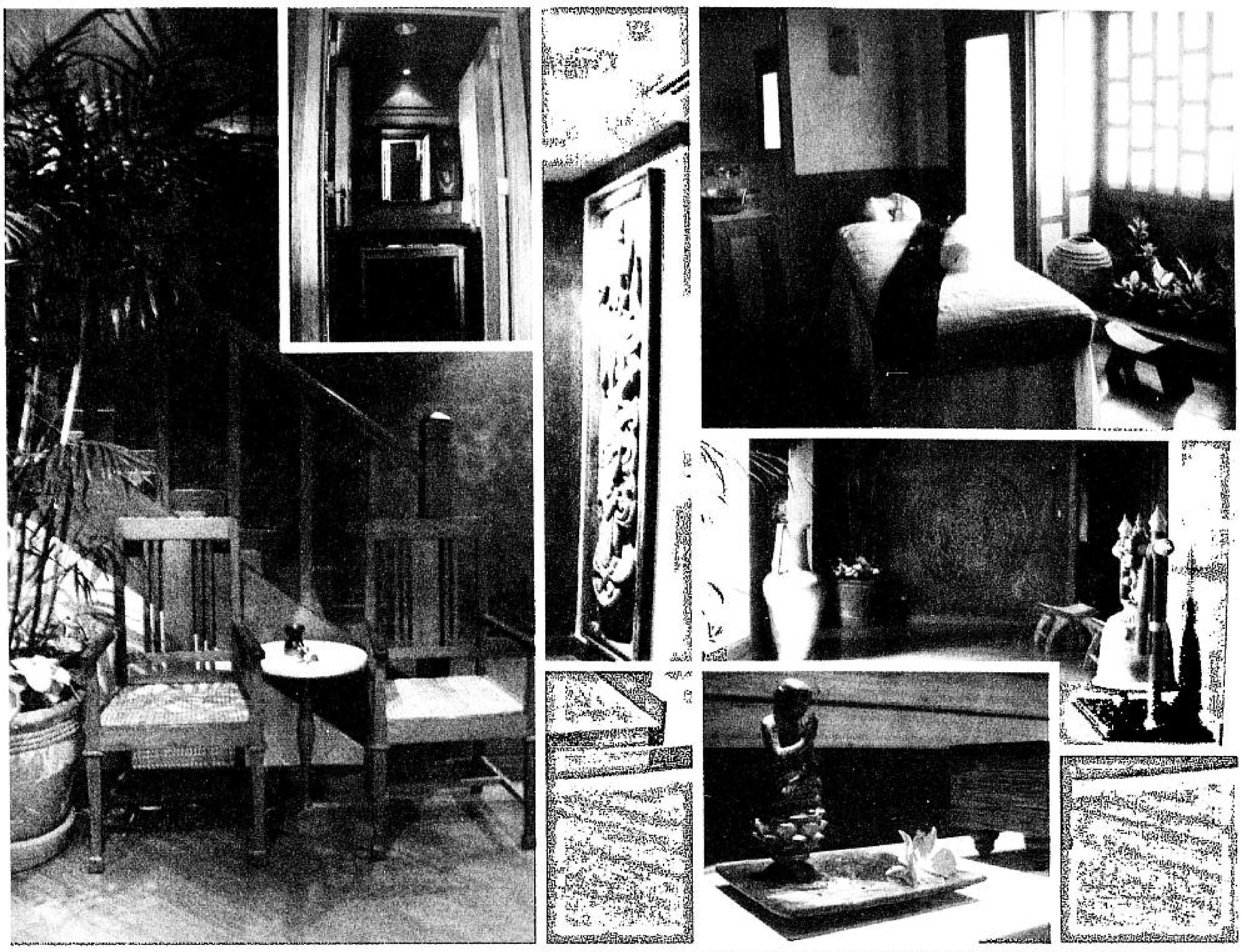
SPA is the millennium catchphrase for well-being and beauty. This passive indulgence targets the stressed-out baby boomers who seek the fountain of self-conservation.

Although the spa culture is predominantly a Western phenomenon, books and glossy magazines have glamorized the exoticism of Oriental rituals, performed in serene surroundings. The West has adopted some of the practices and repackaged them for the busy consumer.

For so long now, the Mandarin Oriental Spa in Bangkok has been touted as one of the best hotel spas in the world for its peaceful surroundings and exceptional service. The experience begins when the client takes a tranquil boat ride across the Chao Phraya River, from the Oriental to the spa. The guests enjoy massages, rubs, baths and other indulgent programs.

That spa experience is transported to Manila. It is arguably the most luxurious among the five-star hotels. Harassed businessman can experience a Thai sanctuary in the heart of Makati's Central Business District. Parts of an ancestral home from Chiang Mai were installed to create the ambience of a Thai home. The rooms are decorated with bells, orchids, incense bowls and sashes. To bring the feeling of the outside inside the hotel, balconies lush with plants are attached to the massage rooms

The reception area on the 18th floor sets the hushed and residential ambience of this oasis, via the therapeutic lighting and gentle music. A short flight of stairs leads to an Oriental-style landscaped garden and relaxation area on the 19th floor where the four private rooms—each with its own bath and steam facility—are also located. One of these rooms is specially designed for couples. The Thai look of the spa is created by Abacus, which is recognized today as one of Thailand's leading interior design companies, having done several of Phuket's foremost spas.



THE STANDARDS and level of revitalizing treatments in The Oriental Spa are reflected in its opulent interiors. Teakwood walls and ceiling evoke the serenity of traditional Thai architecture. Thai upholstery in rich orange hues blend beautifully with black slate, Thai artifacts and furnishings to complete the spa's Oriental look.

Since the spa is limited to the hotel space, the spa emphasizes quality service.

Upon arrival, the guest is given a cool drink of iced tea in a reception area, fragrant with lemon grass. The treatment's emphasis is literally hands-on. There are no steamers or micro-currents. The treatments blend traditional findings with Western methods. The unique offerings are the herbal and clay body polish and the Royal Thai foot spa. The marine-style treatments follow the French preference for seaweed masks and wraps. The facials focus on natural ingredients such as cucumber, yogurt ad herbs.

Since it's a hotel spa, most of the clients are guests, mainly international businessmen. However, the spa is also tapping the local market, which wants an escape in a five-star surrounding.

Consultant Fiona McAlister has spent years in the East studying the market. She says the spa requirements in a hotel have uncompromising standards. There is more attention paid to the greetings, etiquette, phone, cleanliness and operations. A "mystery shopper" or people from the hotel arrive unannounced to check on the services.

McAlister says the spa industry in the Philippines is still in its infancy. Despite the economic instability, there is a growing market that sees the spa experience as a necessity for their well-being and preservation of youth.

Treatments to suit individual needs

SPECIALLY trained professional therapists provide personalized treatments to suit individual needs at the Mandarin Oriental spa. The treatments are a blend of Asian and Western programs, merging techniques and philosophies from Thailand, China, Bali and Europe.

Operated by Sportathlon Phils., which is under the management of the Spa of Siam, the spa uses the exclusive Thalgo line from France in its treatments. Among its signature treatments:

Royal Foot Spa or Royal Hand Treatment—a Dead Sea Salt Scrub removes dead skin cells, and relaxing pressure point massage enhances well-being.

Papaya Body Polish—a revitalizing body wrap treatment using pure papaya to exfoliate and soften one's skin.

Other body treatments to pamper one's well-being are:

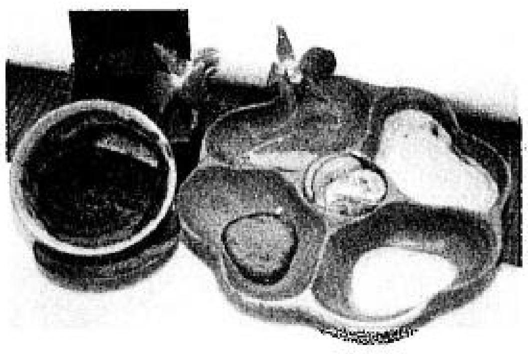
Aromatic Salt Glow—a body exfoliating treatment using aromatic sea salts and pure lavender body oil.

Thermal Mud Wrap—Dead Sea minerals leave the body feeling refreshed, eliminate impurities and toxins from the body.

Facial treatments include Thalgo Aromatic Facial to soften expression lines; Collagen Hydration Facial, an intense hydrating treatment that begins with exfoliation and cleansing before the application of collagen and protein-rich extracts.

Five spa packages to indulge in for a minimum of two hours to a maximum of four hours, include: "Nature's Dream" (papaya body polish; natural honey, cucumber and lime facial; royal foot spa), "Sea Discovery" (micronized marine algae wrap, Thalgo aromatic facial; royal foot spa), "Restorative Pamper" (toning body wrap; massage of one's choice; collagen hydration facial). Each of the packages comes with an aromatic herbal steam.

The spa is open from 8 a.m.-10 p.m. daily. Call 750-8888 extension 1901.



ASIAN treatments use natural ingredients.

FIONA McAlister, spa consultant, brings the technology of the East and West.

PHOTOS BY ROMY HOMILLADA

MICRONIZED Marine Algae—a seaweed-body wrap to promote circulation, detoxification, weight loss and metabolic balance

NATURAL Honey-Cucumber-Lime Facial—the natural properties of these ingredients help restore the skin balance.

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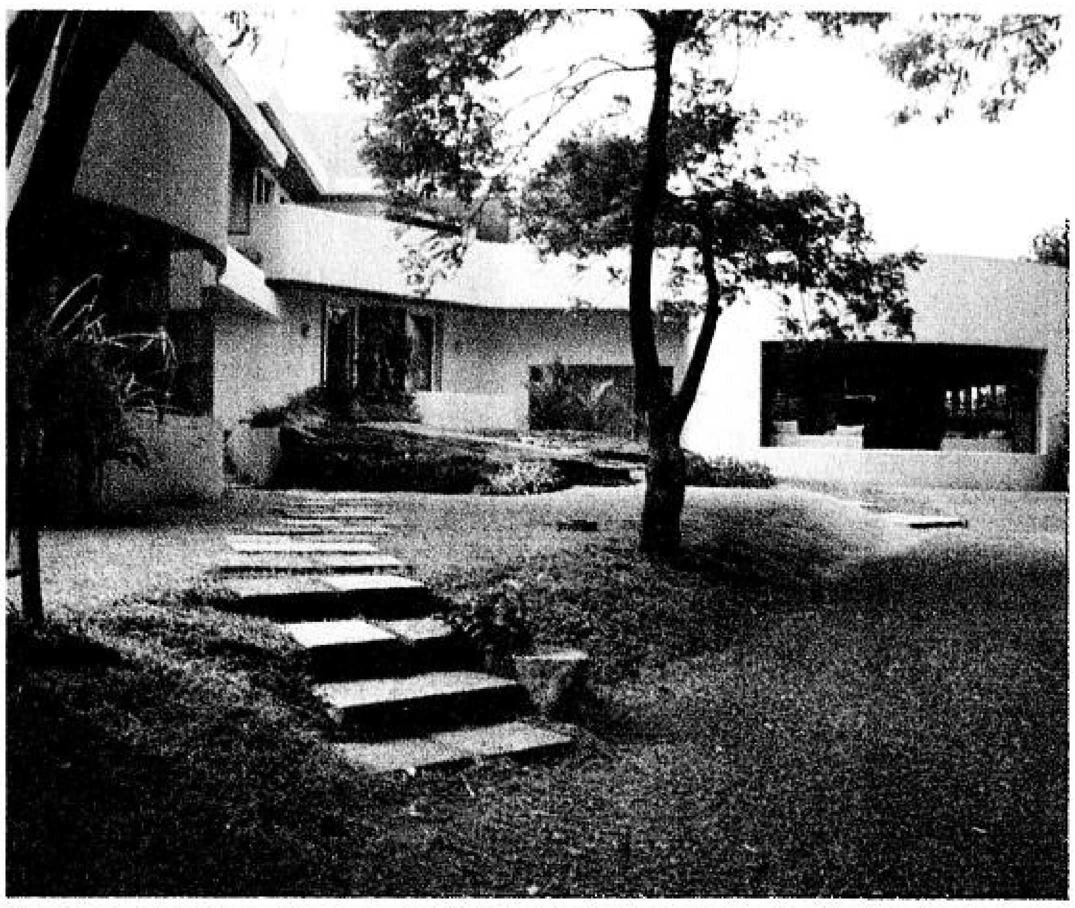
A home that proclaims Budji's trademark



NO HARD EDGES. The house is basically a symmetry of curves at the end of a rectangle. It is built like a tropical resort in the city with pumice stones on the driveway. The structure respects the natural landscape.

By Marge C. Enriquez
Photos by Wahoo Guerrero

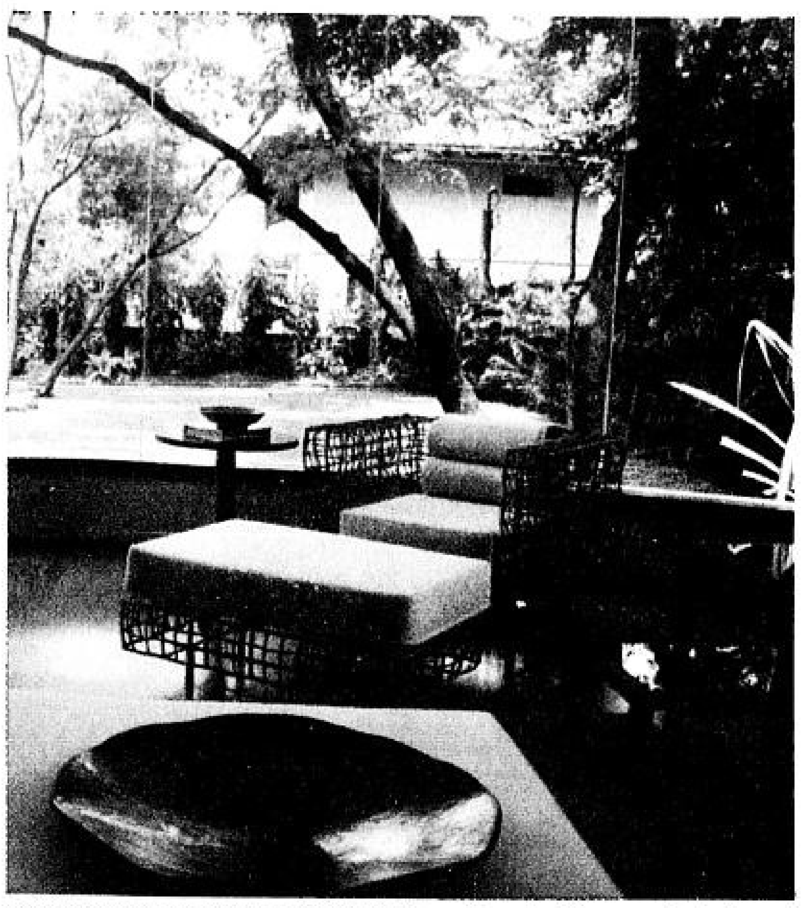
LUIS Layug, better known as Budji, has evolved. It sounds trite to say he's come a long way from hairdresser to homebuilder. Baby boomers recall how Layug introduced progressive ideas in hairstyling in the '70s. That's all behind him now. His passion is to create an environment following organic nature forms and curvilinear shapes, and defying mass production. And it seems logical that the form of the house should follow the function of creating space for his designs to show unity.

Layug's first project is a 1,000-sq-m two-story home in Batasan Hills, QC, owned by entrepreneurs. Concerned with integrated interiors, he creates designs that render a graceful and consolidated space, considerate of the home and its environment.

This residence not only announces his foray into architecture but also his connection with everything that illustrates a living space—furniture, accessories, fabrics and artworks.

Built on a rocky promontory, the house is L-shaped, although curved and womb-like, responding to the needs of the clients, particularly their desire for "cocooning." They prefer to enjoy the comforts of home than to socialize.

A HOME/p.E6



KENNETH Cobonpue's award-winning wire chair is an adaptation of a modern classic. To look airy, the wiry skeleton is sealed with rattan and upholstered in cotton. At the corner, woven rattan.

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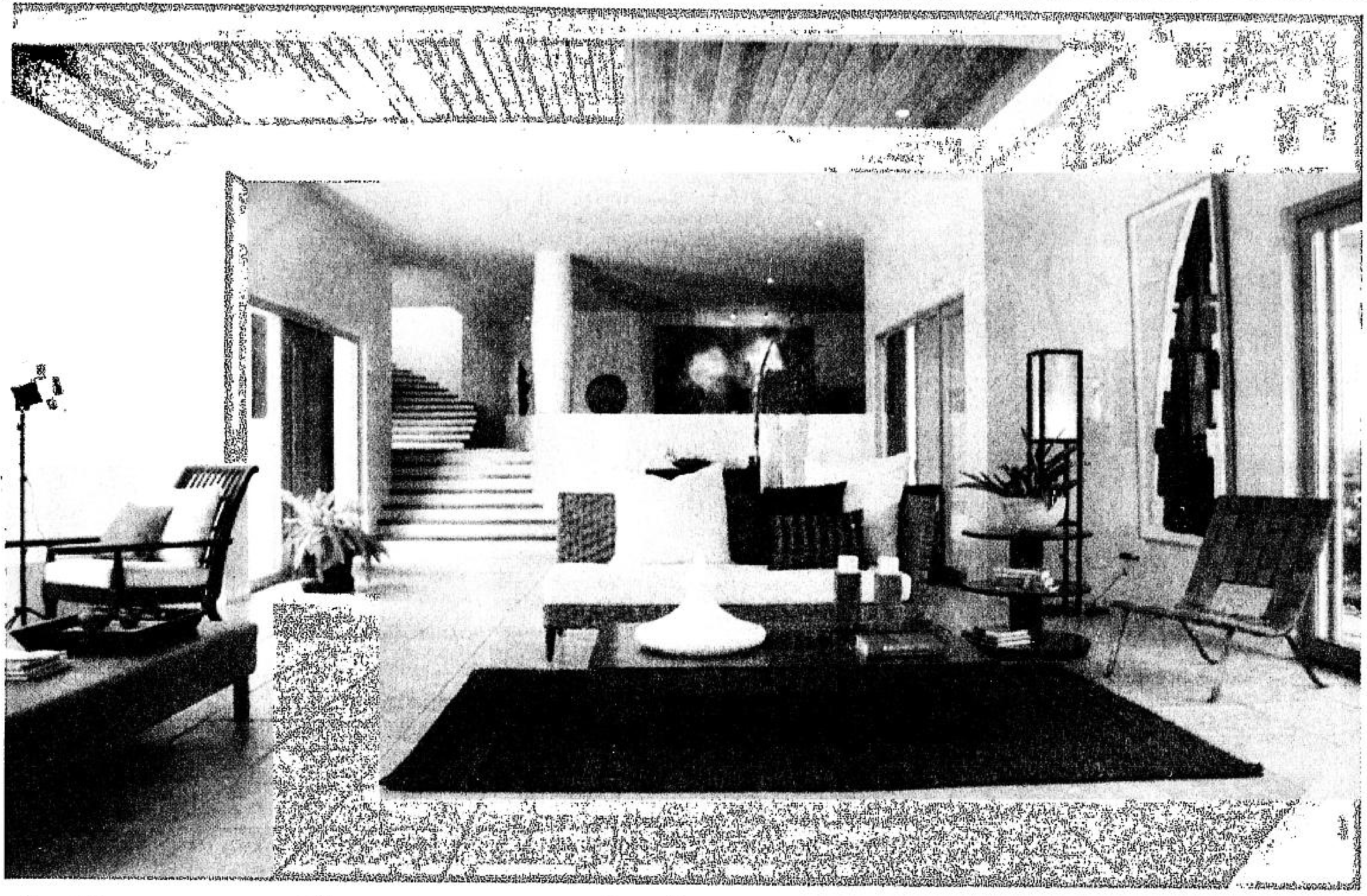


THE DYNAMICS of the house shows it adapts to the terrain by introducing various levels—the sunken living room rises to the raised formal dining room that leads to the bedroom upstairs and the sunken entertainment area and TV rooms. The timber-clad ceiling and stone flooring add warmth to the glass-and-concrete shell. Layug reveals his penchant for the indigenous with his use of natural furnishing. Unlike his earlier days when his furniture designs were hefty, his look is lighter and streamlined. The furniture pieces are made of his trademark woven rattan and laminated crushed bamboo. A chaise longue has a hole in the back to make it lighter and user-friendly.

A home that proclaims Budji's trademark

(From page E5)

The driveway, made from smooth pumice stones, emphasizes fluidity. Layug deviates from his penchant for filling landscapes and shows restraint.

The house is modern and organic in the style of Richard Meier and Frank Lloyd Wright.

Instead of a flat surface, the ground floor follows the contours of the rock, thereby creating various levels from the living room down to the entertainment area.

To maximize the environment, there are roof decks, complete with a Jacuzzi and a master bathroom that looks like a spa.

Layug complements the concrete-and-glass look with indigenous materials such as natural stone flooring and narra beams and frames.

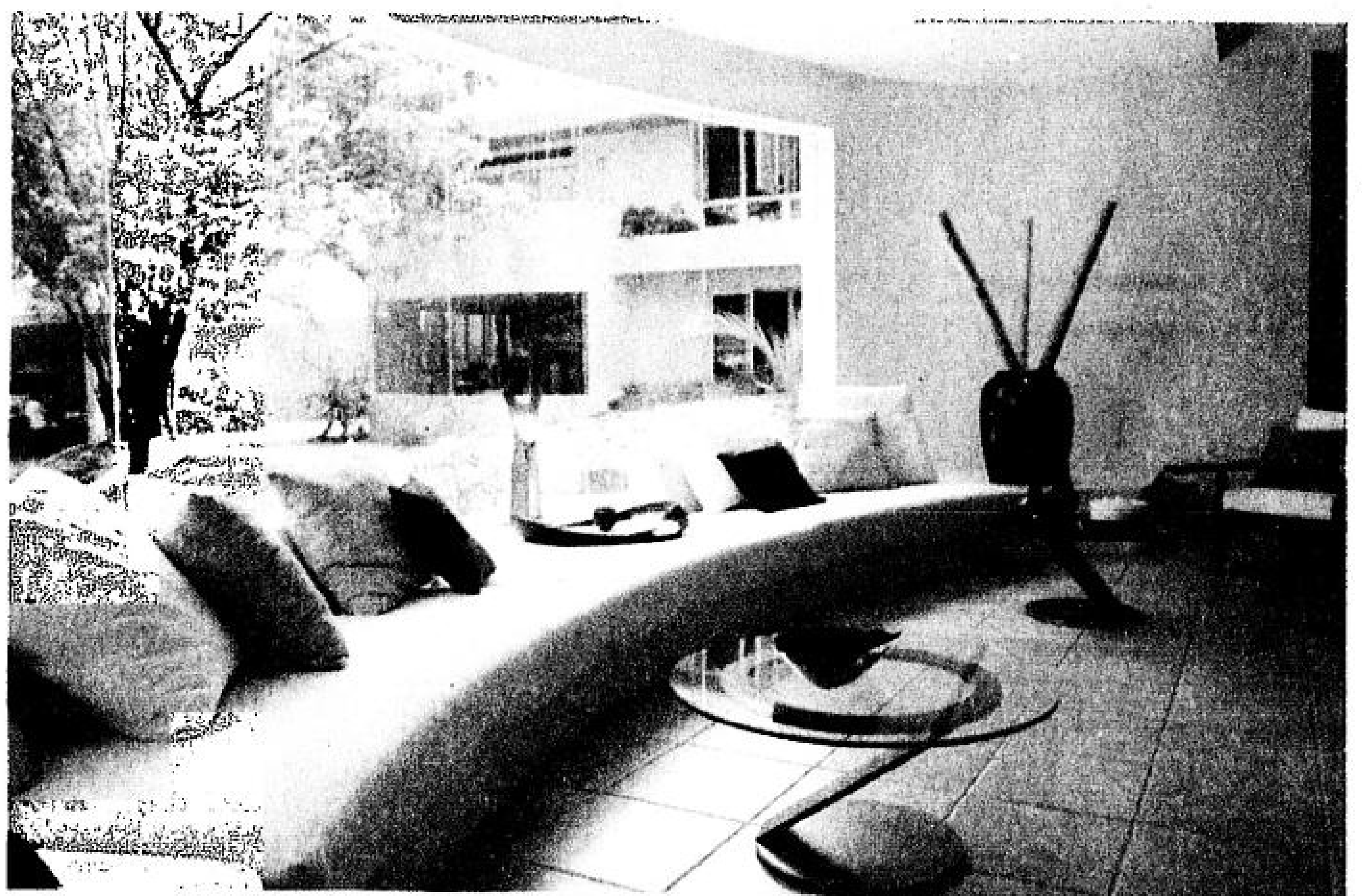
His design emphasizes the effects of natural and mood lighting. He utilizes minimal color, except in paintings, and yet achieves the result of color and vividness.

He favors non-colors, especially white, so that people can appreciate the movement of light and shadow, solids and voids in space. The contrast of white or neutrals defines what is organic and heightens one's appreciation of the rich and natural textures of the furniture and their prodigious volumes.

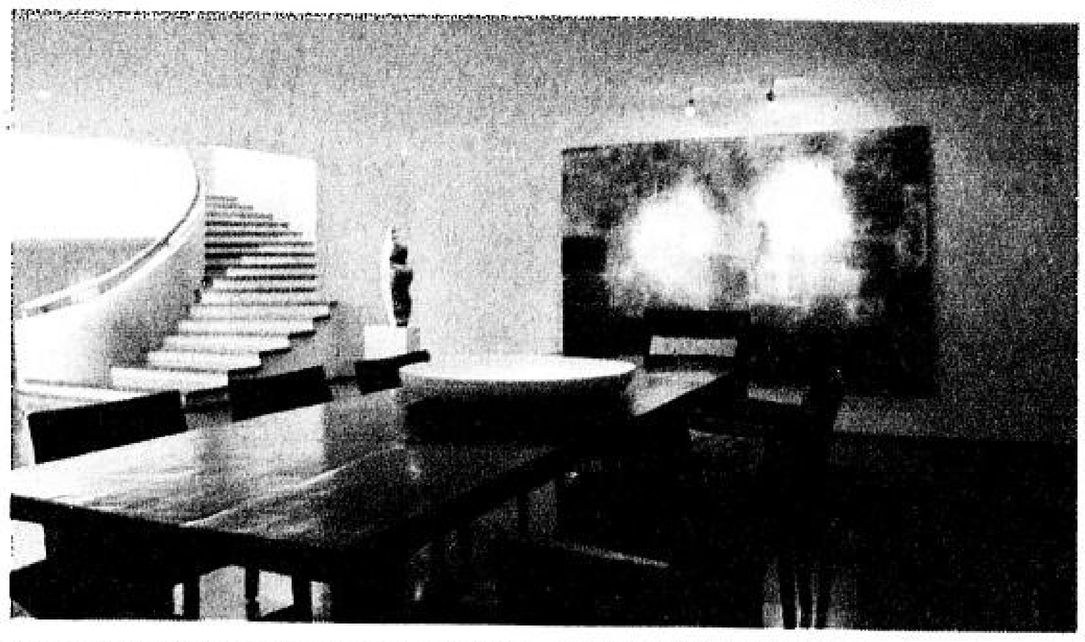
The place evokes a new kind of luxury based on prodigious space, imported fixtures, wide narra planks and vignettes of furniture made by Filipino artists such as Claude Tayag, Impy Pilapil, Gus Albor and members of the Movement 8 like Cebu-based Kenneth Cobonpue and Carlo Cordaro, Tony Gonzales, Ann Pamintuan, Milo Naval and Tes Pasola. Layug also favors the abaca blends of Silk Cocoon and Marissa Floirendo-Brias.

Layug's furniture draws inspiration from the *butaka* and from an Ifugao storage cabinet. The lines are so sleek and modern, you wouldn't think the references were ethnic.

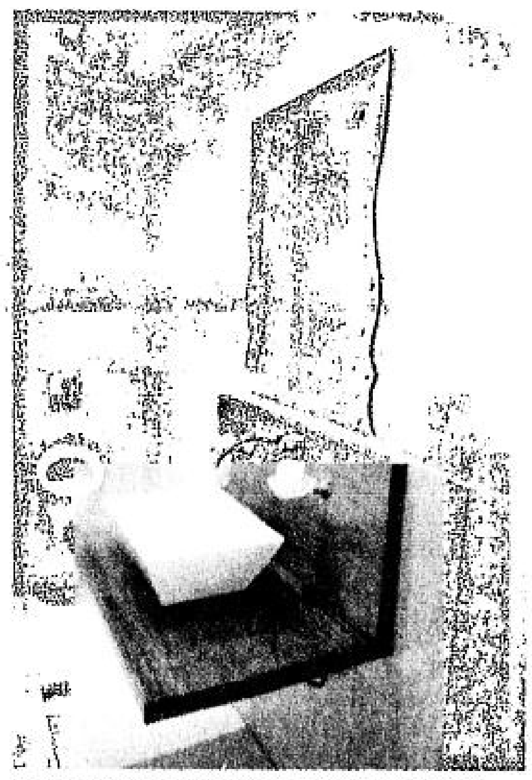
"Philippine style has finally come together to have its own character. It's neither European nor Oriental," he says. "Ours is organic. It is modern, rooted in the past, in nature and draws from the primitive to represent what is now."



THE FRAMELESS glass window enhances the space in the living room. The wraparound banquette with backrest heightens the experience of being outdoors. The seats are upholstered with canvas and furnished with leather pillows by Silk Cocoon and abaca pillows by Marissa Brias. Layug designed the cantilevered coffee tables.



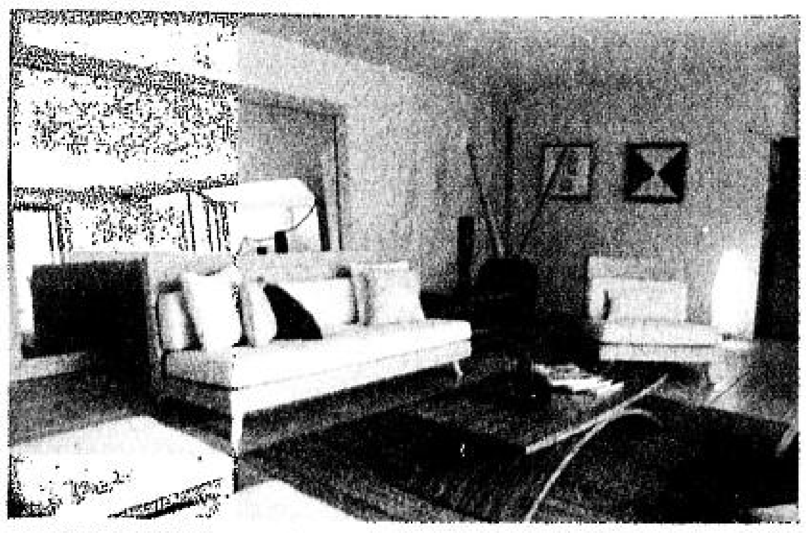
SCALING. The pieces in the living room are few but majestic. The huge Indonesian natural stone bowl balances the *balayong* table with woven leather chairs. The rust shades in Gus Albor designs provide a contrast to the earth tones of the place. Impy Pilapil's marble statue emphasizes the curves of the sculptural stairwell.



LUXURY is interpreted in this sculptural urinal, stainless steel fixtures, *kamagong* shelf, ceramic basin and Impy Pilapil's mirror.

MILO Naval's indigenous abaca stools contrast with the modernity of stainless steel, marble countertop, Italian flooring and light oak-laminated kitchen amenities.

MASTER bedroom fit for a king. There are no obvious signs of opulence. Richness is revealed through the voluminous space, 16-inch wide narra planks, wooden sashay windows, Layug's four-poster woven leather bed and his furniture, featuring his swastika iron table. The gallery serves as the exercise area.



CONVERSATION area features Filipino design in a Western shell. A huge mirror serves to reflect the natural lighting and as a decorative statement. The area features Carlo Cordaro's *dao* veneer tables, Milo Naval's abaca sofas and ottomans, Tes Pasola's paper art and Luisa Robinson's candleholder.

EVERY corner of the living room is arranged to create an atmosphere of intimate conversations. Ann Pamintuan's wire disc highlights this section.

She fears her boyfriend will leave her for another girl

LIVE AND LET LIVE

Tita Dulce

DEAR Tita Dulce,

My mom worked in Davao and it was during my vacation there that Bob and I met and became sweethearts. When I went back to Manila, he seldom wrote or called, saying he would only miss me more if he did. Nevertheless, we continued our long-distance relationship.

After we had premarital sex, I expected that he would be more communicative, but still he hardly called or sent text messages (even if I had helped him pay for the cell phone he now uses). When I again complained, he said he did not want to just talk to me on phone and wanted me beside him instead. So I flew to Davao and we went to bed again.

Our relationship is 4 years old now, and I will be graduating from college soon. But just recently, he called to say that his seatmate in class has become his girlfriend. He said he still loves me and he got another girlfriend just to have company. I am very hurt all the same, and I asked him to choose between that girl and me.

I hope he will choose me, but I'm afraid that he won't. My parents know him and like him for me, but they don't know how intimate we have been and I cannot tell them about this problem now.

ABEY

I think you did right in asking him to choose. Self-respecting girls should do as you did—refuse to be treated like cars or pairs of sneakers, something a guy can have in two, one for daily use and another for special occasions.

Keep in mind one thing, though: When a girl asks her sweetheart to choose between her and another girl, she should be ready to lose.

If you lose him, however, I don't think you'll lose much. I saw no indication in your letter that you're very special to him. He, for instance, should have helped you buy a cell phone, and not the other way around. And if he really wanted you beside him, it should be he, not you, who should have flown to your side. It is not surprising that a guy like that would be undemonstrative of his alleged love. Such guys don't have much to demonstrate.

Which brings us to the second thing you should keep in mind: When your boyfriend chooses you over the other girl, your victory could be empty.

Should he choose you, what assurance do you have that he will be a better sweetheart this time? Isn't there a big likelihood that he'll just be enamored again with another seatmate and you will simply be back again to where you are now? It is not necessary that you hit your head with a stone a second time when you've already seen how bad it hurt the first time.

Maybe your relationship got to this point not because fate wants to give you the privilege of being the one to hand your sweetheart the ultimatum. Rather, maybe it got to this point because fate wants to give you a chance to cut your losses.

He might have already taken your virginity, my dear, but you still have a lot of your life ahead of you.

E-mail the author at titadulce@netscape.net or send letters to P.O. Box 2353, Makati CPO 1263 Makati City, or PDI, Chino Roces Avenue corner Yague and Mascardo Streets, Makati City

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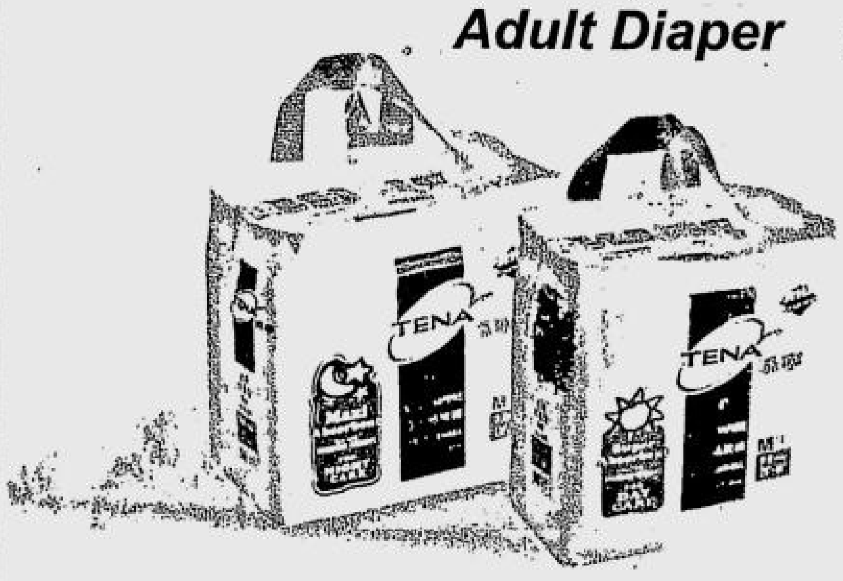

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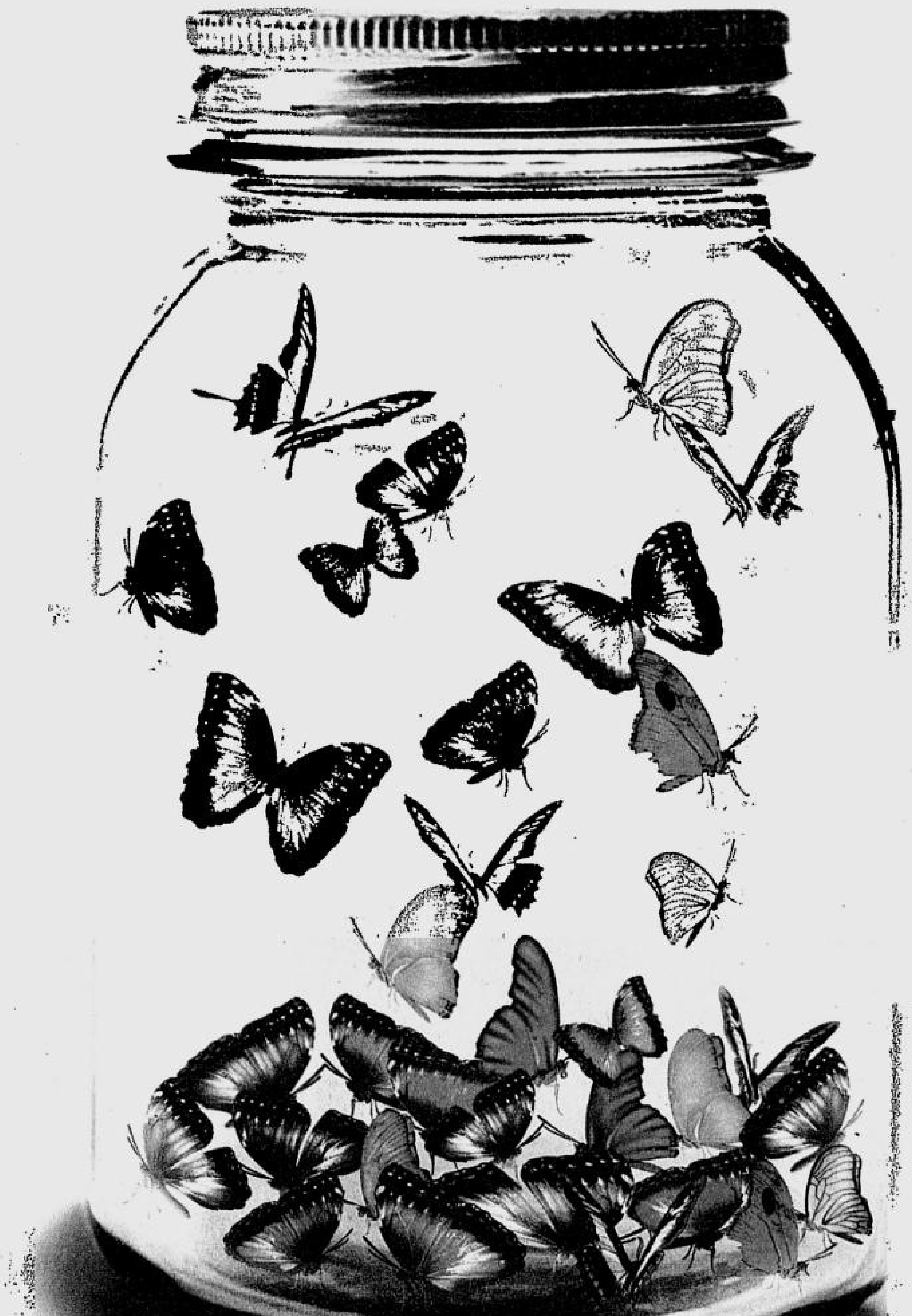

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LIFESTYLE

Trend Spotting

The day the news fulfilled the movie

LIFE-STYLED

Thelma Sioson San Juan

IT was surreal. I was writing this column when CNN on my TV was taken over by the image of a World Trade Center billowing in smoke, and a few minutes later, of Washington, also in columns of smoke. It was like watching a disaster movie—yet again.

Only this time, it was for real. The news, finally and tragically, has followed the plot of a Hollywood blockbuster. The World Trade Center has collapsed and been crushed in many a movie, from "Ghostbusters" to "King Kong" (I think), but when it finally happens—like it did Tuesday—you watch in disbelief, as if waiting for the movie's final credits to run, like this were only make-believe.

"This is actually reality," the BBC anchor had to say again and again as the screen showed the World Trade Center crumbling in thick folds of smoke. They've downed a symbol of American power, the anchor would add later.

Over and over you've seen aliens, monsters, every disaster imaginable striking New York and Washington—in the movies. But when pandemonium indeed broke out in Manhattan, as it did Tuesday morning, you realized no action flick could ever approximate reality.

To just hear witnesses talk about how they saw bodies falling off or jumping out the Trade Center windows gave you the scare the way no movie did—because this time, without the actual footage, you were left at the mercy of your imagination; you were imagining fact. Nothing could be more real and more involving than that.

You were fleshing out the news on your mind, supplying the incredible images in a manner not even Steven Spielberg could.

Tuesday night (morning in New York) was one time you wished we all just stayed in virtual or celluloid reality. The terrorists who they said did it couldn't have been acting on beliefs, but on sheer hatred of humanity.

Our colleague **Boots** texted me to remind me that our Chalk editor **Romina Urra** was right in New York at that moment. The morning after, Romina called us to say she was all right, that she could see everything that was happening at World Trade Center right from her apartment.

What was I writing about before CNN/BBC intruded? How we Pinoys were fed up reading about the same scandal. Talk about irony. Now we have a fresh headline fare. And it's a tragedy far worse than Hollywood could dish out.

Anyway, to proceed to my original piece....

Resolution

People are talking about how they don't want to talk anymore about **Rosebud**, **Ping** and company. We've just about had it with "kleptocracy" and drugs. While people-powering has become a tendency, we are also looking for the resolution to all these allegations about drugs and crime in high places. Senate hearings turn nauseating when there's no resolution, no prosecution and no rectification in sight.

We hanker for good governance, but instead, what we're getting is telenovela—with no end in sight. That's what's pathetic about today's news. There's no catharsis.

Post-Edsa 2 had a curious by-product: the live audience any Senate "trial" is guaranteed. But then politicians, the military and government in

THE DAY / p.F3

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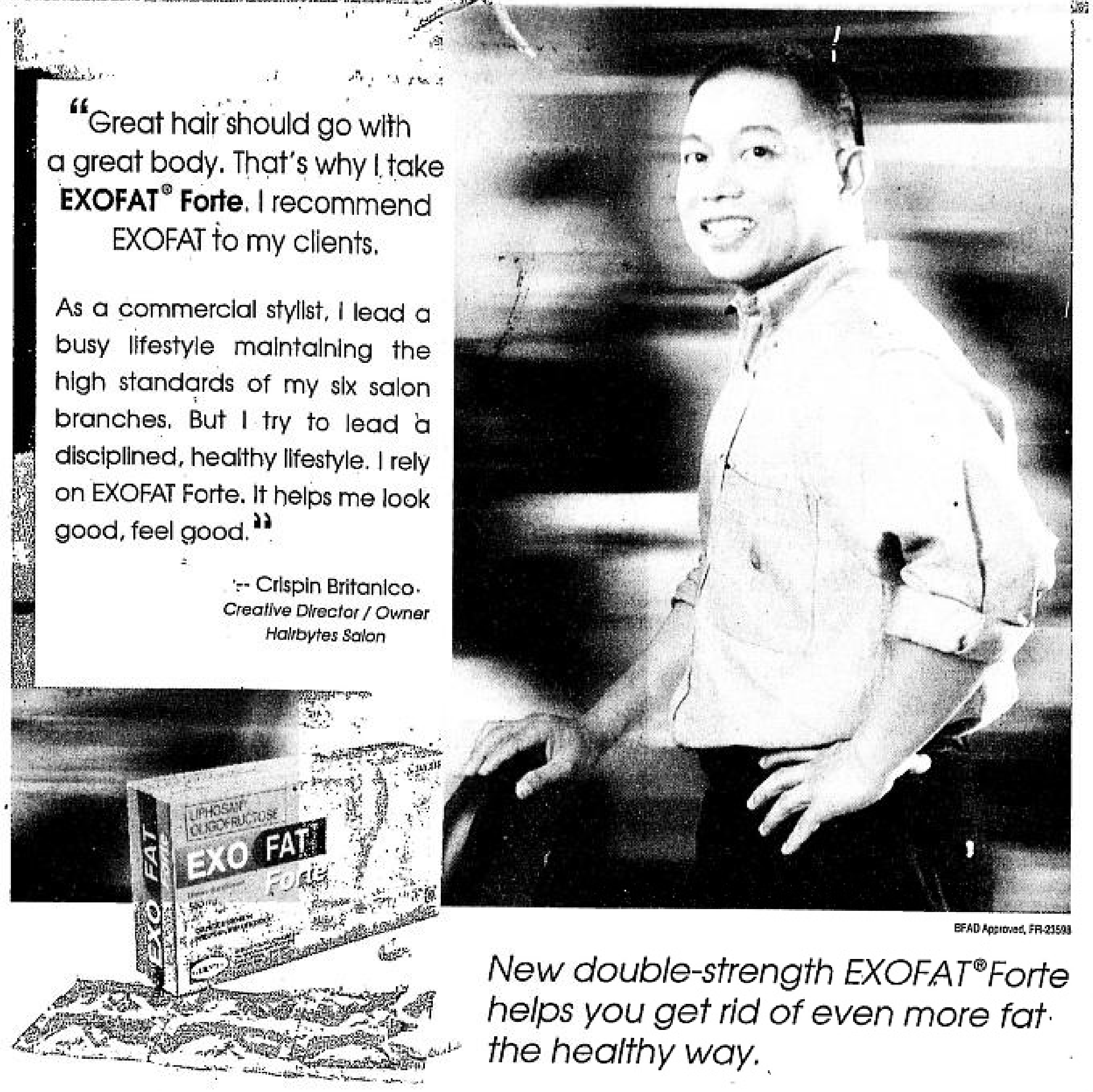

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The way they wear

THE COUNTRY'S financial district, Makati, will mount an exhibit depicting the evolution of Filipino attires until Sept. 28 at the Museo ng Makati. The exhibit will cover the evolution of the traditional clothes of Luzon, Visayas and Mindanao.

The exhibit will show Visayan skirts of brightly colored stripes made of cotton or *sinamay* worn with fitting collarless chemise with long sleeves from which came the *patadyong* originally called *patadlog*.

Mindanao will be represented by the bright colors of the *malong* and its many uses. The intricately woven multicolored accessories made of beads dominant in the clothes of our tribal brothers like the Bagobos, T'bolis, Tausug and Maranao complete the suite.

For Luzon, the various changes and influences of Spanish and American cultures in the *traje de mestiza* from which the stateliness of our *terno* emerged will be depicted.

The *baro't saya* was dominant particularly in the 18th century after it was introduced by the Spaniards in the 17th century. It is said that the butterfly sleeves which were added to the *baro* were copied from the gown worn by the statue of the Nuestra Señora delos Remedios while the *panuelo* was influenced by the long cape of the Virgin of the Rosary. Changes were due to the fashion consciousness of the *mestizas* who initiated simple narrow skirts with fold at the waist held in place by pins called *pares*. Affluent Spanish ladies wore this type of clothes which the more moneyed *mestizas* copied.

"*Terno*," a Spanish word meaning "matching," was a transformation of the *baro't saya* to *traje de mestiza* to *terno* in 1910. The emergence of the *terno* as a formal attire worn with the *camisa* and *panuelo* matching its *saya* was dominant and popular in 1920.

The exhibit aims to reawaken the community to its historical roots and to give everyone the opportunity to rediscover the ingenuity and adaptability of the Filipino in the creation of clothes made from raw materials like *abaca*, ramie, the barks of the *bahug* and *lahi* trees.

The exhibit will be highlighted by a presentation of songs, dances and fashion in different eras to be held at the lobby of the new City Hall. The eras covered are turn of the century, Thomasites, prewar, postwar and the 1960s to 2000. City officials will be the main models of the fashion show. The show is open to the public.

FDAP kicks off 20th year

IN LINE with the Fashion Designers Association of the Phils.' (FDAP) 20th anniversary, the new set of officers were formally inducted into office at simple ceremonies held at the Hotel de Intramuros.

They are: Lito Perez, president; O'le Morabe, vice president (internal); Marisoc Nueno, vice president (external); Jontle Martinez, secretary; Ernie Uy, treasurer; Ramon Esteban, assistant treasurer; Ivie Lao, auditor; Arielle Agasang, PRO; and Rheez Chua, sgt. at arms. The board of directors include Edgar San Diego, chair; and the board of members are Rholand Roxas, Tony Cajucom, Edgar Madamba, Johnny Abad, Gino Fernando and Jing Chua.

Special guest of honor was Jamby Madrigal.

On that same occasion, FDAP also mounted "Milestones," a creative party fair that included a bridal exhibit and a fashion show featuring the "formal wear" collection of FDAP designers; a dialogue with special guest Fanny Serrano, a popular hair and makeup artist and FDAP member; and Rita Neri, a wedding planner-consultant.

The designers of "Milestones" were Johnny Abad, John Abul, Milo Afable, Ariel Agasang, Ronaldo Arnaldo, Tony Cajucom, Rheez Chua, Ivan de la Cruz, Babang del Mundo, Rem Divino, Edna Encarnacion, John Espeleta, Ramon Esteban, Gino Fernando, Bong Garcia, Gener Gozum, Ivy Lao, Edgar Madamba, Dennis Martin, Jontle Martinez, O'le Morabe, Vivo Nazareth, Marisoc Nueno, Roland Lirio, Glenn Lopez, Richard Papa, Lito Perez, Bumbee Ramos, Adrian Rios, J. Royo, Rholand Roxas, Edgar San Diego, Fanny Serraño and Ernie Uy.

For 2001-2002, FDAP will produce other events that will showcase the different talents of its members and collaborative productions with the government and private sector. Call 725-0819.

Fair offers bargains and freebies

COSMETICS, fragrances and toiletries are currently on sale at 50 percent off at SM's Health & Beauty Fair. Among the great buys are selected items from L'Oréal, Sally Hansen, VMV, Wet & Wild, Max Factor and Body Fantasies.

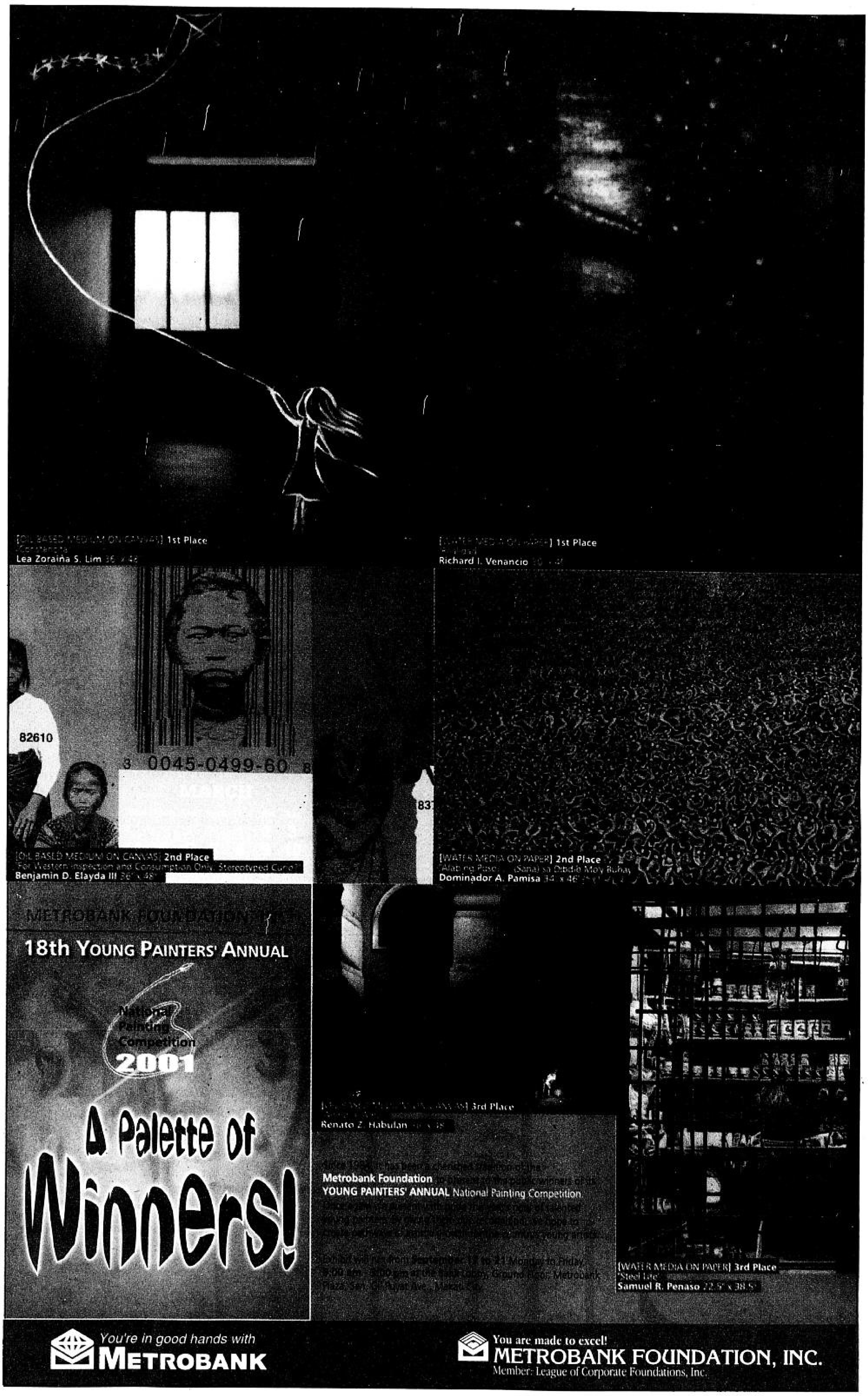
Selected Revlon items are available at 50 percent discount while you get 25 percent off other products. Every P500 purchase gives you a chance to pick a prize and to win a Nokia 3310 in the raffle.

The purchase of any two Maybelline bestsellers—Great Lash Mascara, Express Makeup or Moisture Whip—will get a shopper the Express Blush for free.

There is also a free gift set upon purchase of the 100 ml Alfred Dunhill Desire. Free cK shades are given away for every 100-ml purchase of cK scents.

Every P300 single or accumulated purchase gives the shopper a chance to join and win in the scratch-a-prize promo. A total of 100 units of shock-proof and water-resistant Siemens ME 45 cell phones are at stake.

The H&B Annual Fair is ongoing at Health & Beauty outlets of all SM Department Stores and SM Malls until Sept. 30.


[OIL BASED MEDIUM ON CANVAS] 1st Place
Lea Zoraiña S. Lim

[WATER MEDIA ON PAPER] 1st Place
Richard I. Venancio

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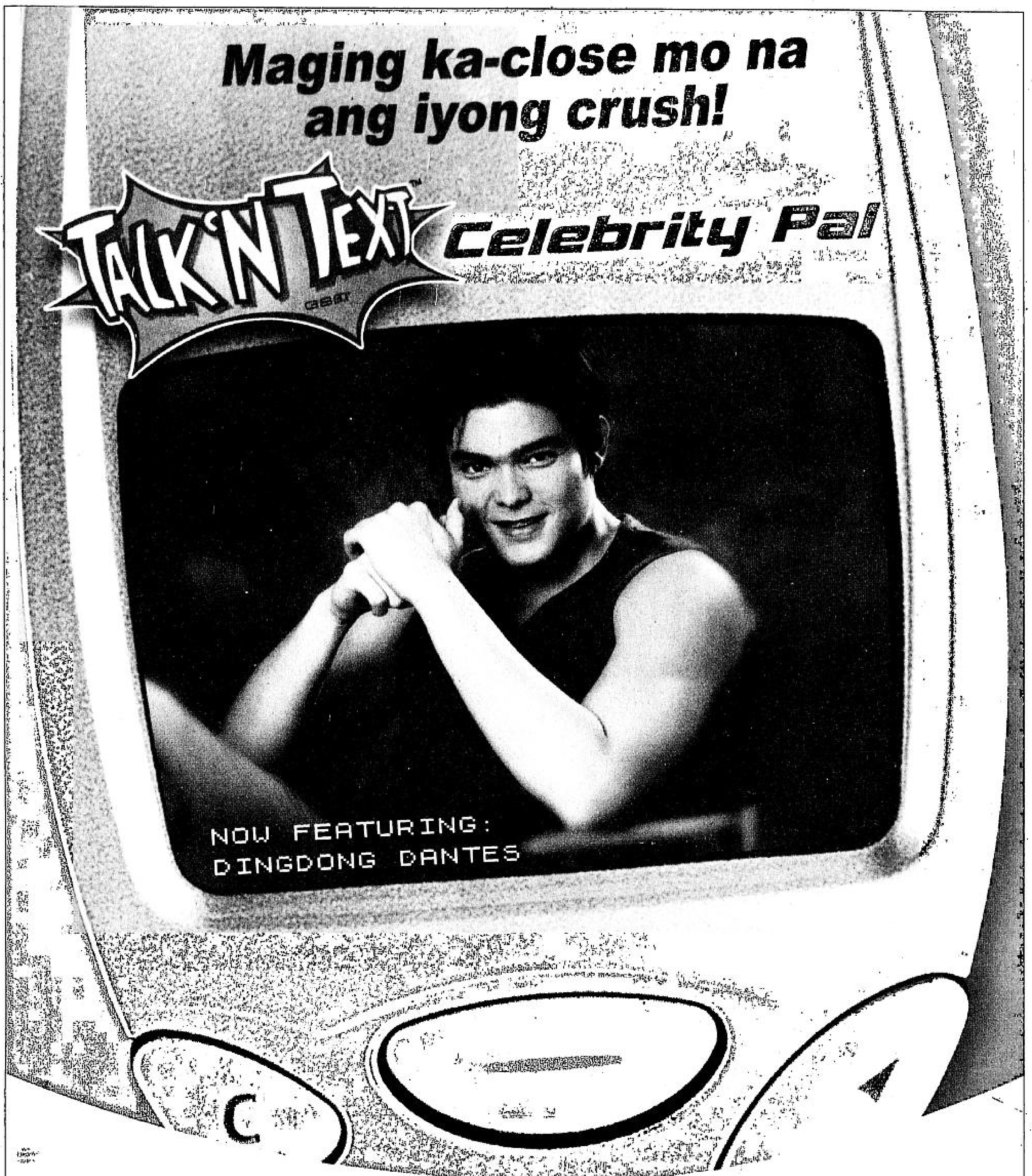
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The day . . .

(From page F1)

general also behave like they were ratings-challenged characters in a cheap telenovela—and act out the part to the hilt before this daily captive audience.

This time, the people have overdosed on telenovela. Frankly, we're not interested to follow Rosebud's betrayed love. We have more productive things to do. What we want is punishment, retribution—and the rescue of our values for our children.

Homecoming

Speaking of values—they came to mind when I visited my school one recent weekend for the first time in 27 years. Nothing much has changed about St. Theresa's College—physically. The quadrangle—the physical cornerstone of our childhood memory—is as vast and calming as before. The corridors don't look rundown at all. The grounds seem more contained only because the trees have grown. But these things shouldn't interest the readers at all. What should is what I thought of the 20 or so students—high school and a few from grade school—who listened to the talk on writing and magazine publishing.

On the way to school, to be honest, I was psyching myself up not to expect much from my young audience. Given today's kids where writing, grammar and reading are concerned, I was prepared to be disappointed. At best, I expected an MTV Taglish and MTV attention span. I am from a generation of Theresians schooled in academic excellence—no one got a life outside the books; weekends were for writing book reports, not for parties; and I still remember the trauma of 7:30 a.m. math drills. I was in for a surprise. I read the students' raw articles—they weren't only grammatical and organized (they still have diagramming drills for sentence construction, I was told), they were also insightful—and they're still fond of "The Little Prince." I didn't spot any Taglish—only straight Pilipino, or straight English.

All throughout, they stayed seated, listened, asked questions. More important, they echoed good old-fashioned values, even in their movie reviews.

Nostalgic but happy

Some things don't change, I told myself, nostalgic but happy. Then a sad thought crossed my mind coming home after dropping in on Sr. **Emma Vijandre** in the students' dorm—if they still make Theresians like they used to, how on earth will these girls fit in a country that's becoming more and more like a telenovela? In a country where it's far more rewarding to sell out than to stand for your values.

After spending half of my life in that school (all the way to college), I came away remembering two words—integrity (they gave out merit cards for it) and authenticity; no matter what philosopher Sr. **Myrna Francia** introduced, she always wound up with that authenticity of being. Honest, real-ness—don't make me define it again, two decades after I left school. Whatever you do, be authentic—even in your rebellion (like I did in the '70s). In all schools, values are for teaching; in my school, values were for drilling. My parents introduced me to a sense of values, the nuns programmed, fortified and tested me on them—relentlessly.

In the '70s the I.C.M. nuns phased out the college because they wanted to be authentic to their calling—like the Maryknoll nuns, they are missionaries, so to the missions they had to go back to. To look after the education, not of the country's "elite," but of the country's underprivileged in the provinces.

Since the historic decade that was the '70s, St. Theresa's has taken a very low profile, even when raising funds. Through the decades it needed to raise funds for its social orientation program—wherein students of less privileged families get to study at STC. Not only has the school been intent in taking in students from the non-elite, it has also been vigilant about the type of lifestyle its students must take to, I heard—simple, not extravagant.

Even in business, St. Theresa's has been conservative. It hasn't expanded beyond its Quezon City campus. I doubt if it even has a business plan the way De La Salle or Ateneo has. I learned that even the nuns' congregation isn't growing that much here.

Progressive

That's in business. In mind and orientation, however, our nuns can be progressive, if unorthodox. They were the first congregation in the world to shed their garb. Today they don't wear habits. Like many nuns and priests, they're into causes. When it comes to the latter, Sr. Emma and I have run parallel involvements, though at opposite times. I was a student activist when she was the Establishment, as every nun then was. When I got a career in the Establishment, she went into activism.

That's Sr. Emma—she of the expansive mind and of the enriching experience, whatever it may be.. To my lifestyle crowd, Sr. Emma Vijandre should be known as the sister of the famous fashion/interior designer **Chito Vijandre**. To me, she's a surrogate mom who's introduced me into borderless ideas and insights the way my biological mom wouldn't dare do. Now she's into discovering ecology, the cosmic universe and is planning to spend her sabbatical on a farm in Australia. Revisiting her after many years put me back in touch not only with my school but also with the values it represents in my life, including the boundless love of learning.

Now to go back to my question: how do these values survive in our environment where corruption is a career path and where notoriety and media hype are the sure ticket to celebrityhood and to government? Is an education as rigid, as authentic, as values-anchored as St. Theresa's already passé? Is a school that's built more on academic learning than on potential business/high-society network unable to cope now?

The more these values should be upheld, a businessman-friend assured me, because postmodernity must be anchored on old values. Now more than ever.

You don't feel reassured the more you watch the news.

E-mail the author at tsanjuan@link.com.ph

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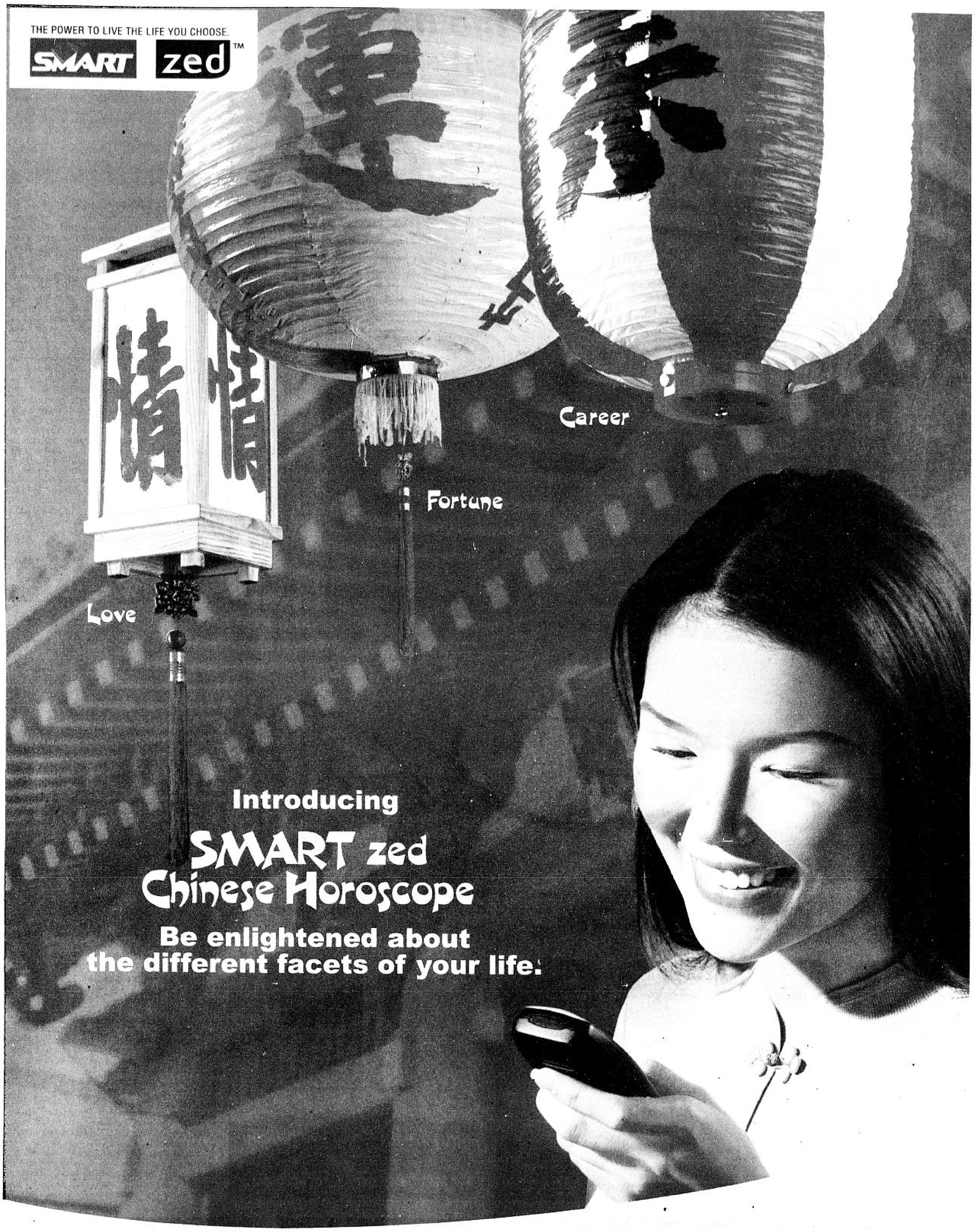
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AWARD-WINNING bromeliad

Flower power rises at MILF country

By Tita V. Giron

LACKING the pomp and hoopla of previous years, the 6th National Floriculture Congress compensated with its beautiful flower show and technical sessions. This year's venue, General Santos (Gensan) City, also offered visitors certain experiences no other place could offer.

It is only in Gensan, for example, where a flower congress could follow on the heels of a tuna festival. On the evening the city mayor hosted an all-fish dinner to welcome congress delegates at the Family Country Hotel and Convention Center, liliums and roses from Baguio City brightened up the hall with their flamboyant colors and filled the air with sweet scent. Fish and flowers have never gone so well together.

But after all, before Gensan took to flowers it was tuna country. And it was tuna that enabled the people to enjoy an average family income of P116,492 a year, allowing them to indulge their love of flowers and raise ornamental plants, too. Now, next to tuna, the floriculture business may yet become a major industry in this part of Mindanao.

Right now, the city's small-scale growers supply flowers to Manila and neighboring provinces. A big grower raises mums and roses in a 25-hectare farm. And Dole Philippines grows world-class anthuriums and foliage plants for export.

Demand for cutflowers in the city itself is already significant. Gensan needs cutflowers and landscaping plants for 16 hotels and several restaurants and business establishments. Other big consumers in the region collectively known as Soccsargen (South Cotabato, Sultan Kudarat, Sarangani and General Santos) also rely on the city for their supply. This is why big growers in Davao and Bacolod have opened outlets in Gensan.

Abu Sayyaf scare

Too bad half the estimated number of participants in the national floriculture congress stayed away because of Gensan's reputation as a stronghold of the Moro Islamic Liberation Front (MILF). Even Cabinet members, Tourism and Agriculture Secretaries Richard Gordon and Leonardo Montemayor, also failed to come.

Some members of the Federation of Cutflower and Ornamental Growers of the Philippines apologized for their inability to attend the event due to unavoidable circumstances. Two rich Chinese officers of garden clubs feared they might become targets for kidnapping. And a founding member of the federation said she did not want to worry her family needlessly.

FLOWER/p.G2

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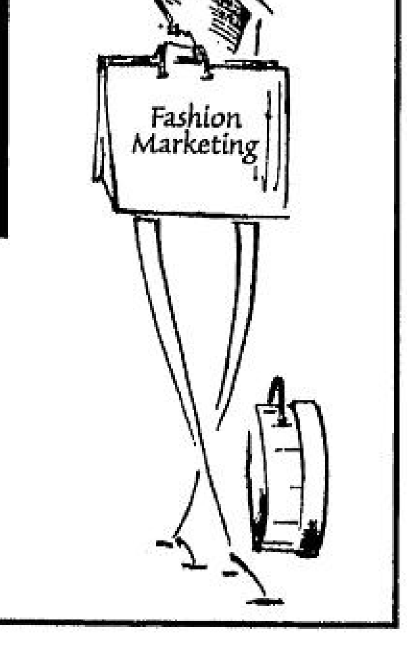
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Flower power rises at MILF country

(From page G1)

Officers of the federation who were at the congress said the no-shows did not realize they were missing business opportunities. Obviously, many of the delegates went on a buying spree for plants and eagerly established connections with other growers and suppliers, particularly local ones.

Then, too, those who canceled missed the fun of riding in a sidecar to go to the Oval Plaza garden market that sells everything from the latest ornamental plant to rare fruit-bearing trees to garden supplies. Every Wednesday, upland dwellers descend on the garden market to hawk native ferns, hoyas, orchids and hanging plants from the forest.

The side events were also worth the trip to Gensan. They included the flower arrangement competition for top florists, eat-all-you-can tuna festival, and dinner socials with entertainment provided by a sensational local singing group called Layag Pagari.

FLOWER arrangements of King Louie farm

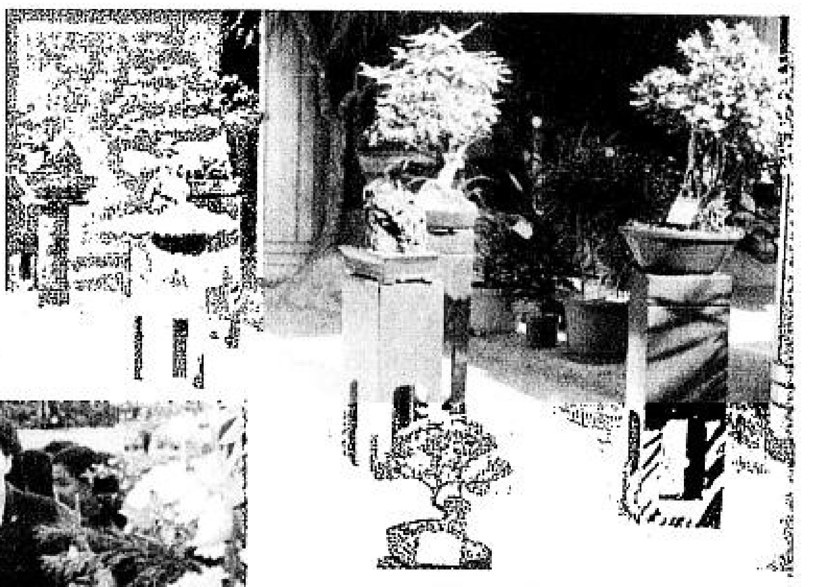
It was exciting to savor the numerous and innovative tuna dishes prepared at the dinner hosted by Mayor Pedro Acharon Jr. at the tuna festival. Aside from traditional recipes, there were tuna *kare-kare*, tuna balls, tuna skin *chicharon*, crackling fins, *adobo*, barbecue, *longganisa* and many more.

Acharon assured the delegates that the Abu Sayyaf was not based in Gensan. Evidently the delegates coming from other parts of Mindanao were not worried about making the trip to Gensan. They drove leisurely into the city by private car from Davao, Bukidnon and Cagayan de Oro while other delegates came by ferry and buses.

A quick look at the log book showed that participants came from Capiz, Leyte, Agusan, Butuan City, the Bicol Region, Cabacan, Kidapawan, Manila, Pampanga, Pangasinan, among others.

The mayor predicted that floriculture will be a major industry in the region. At present, the GSC Gardeners Cooperative has 30 members. The future of the industry indeed looks bright what with the strong support of the Departments of Trade and Industry, Agriculture and Tourism, and the USAID-funded Growth with Equity In Mindanao (GEM) Program.

E-mail author at mariettagiron@hotmail.com



BONSAI exhibit of Mindanao hobbyists

EDNA Viterbo and Sally Leuenbereger of National Plant Growers Federation; Lilian Mirabueno, congress chair; Bebe-i Gonzales for Rep. Magnolia Antonino-Custodio

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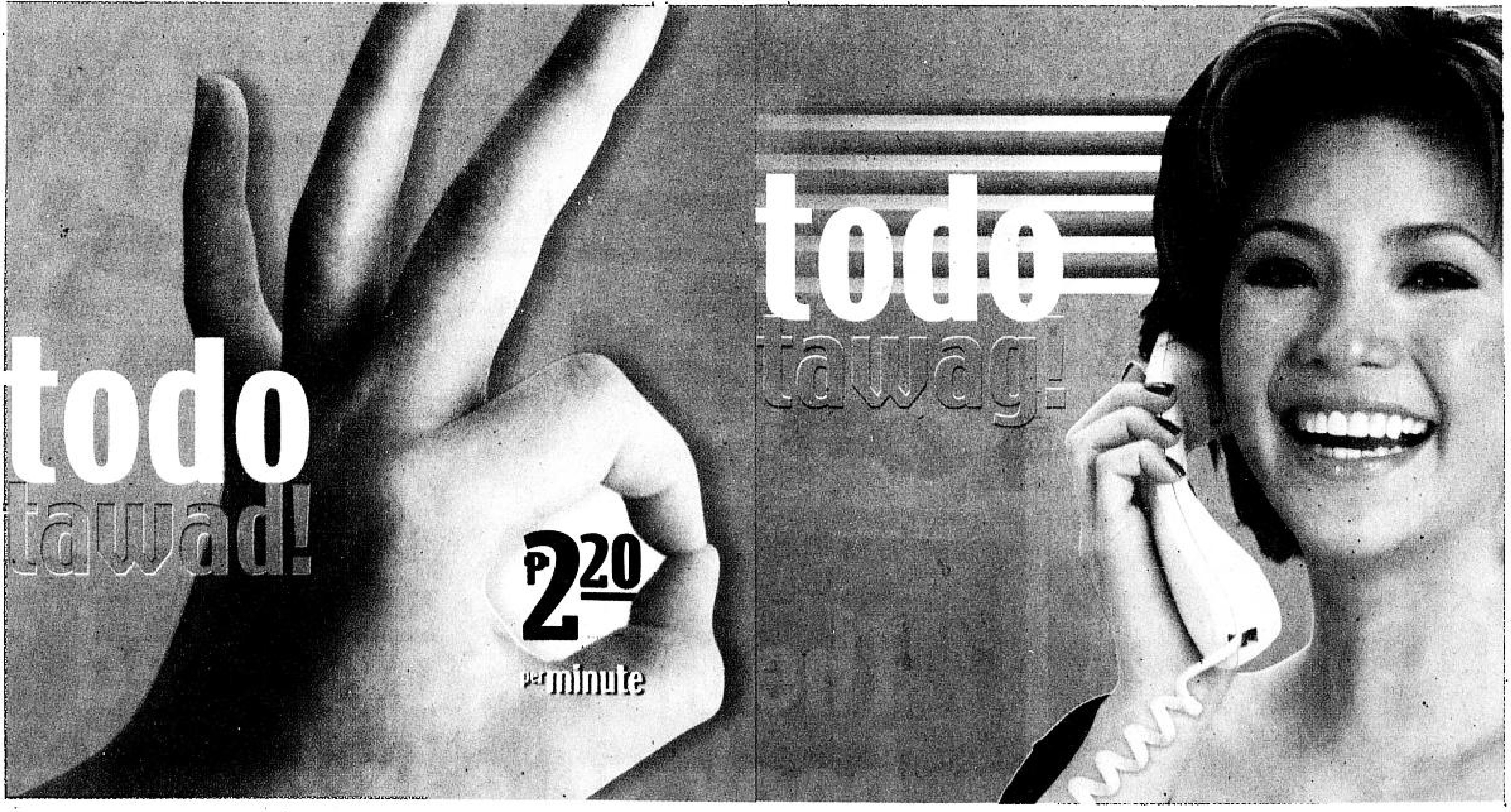

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PUNK 2001 Regional Youth Summits
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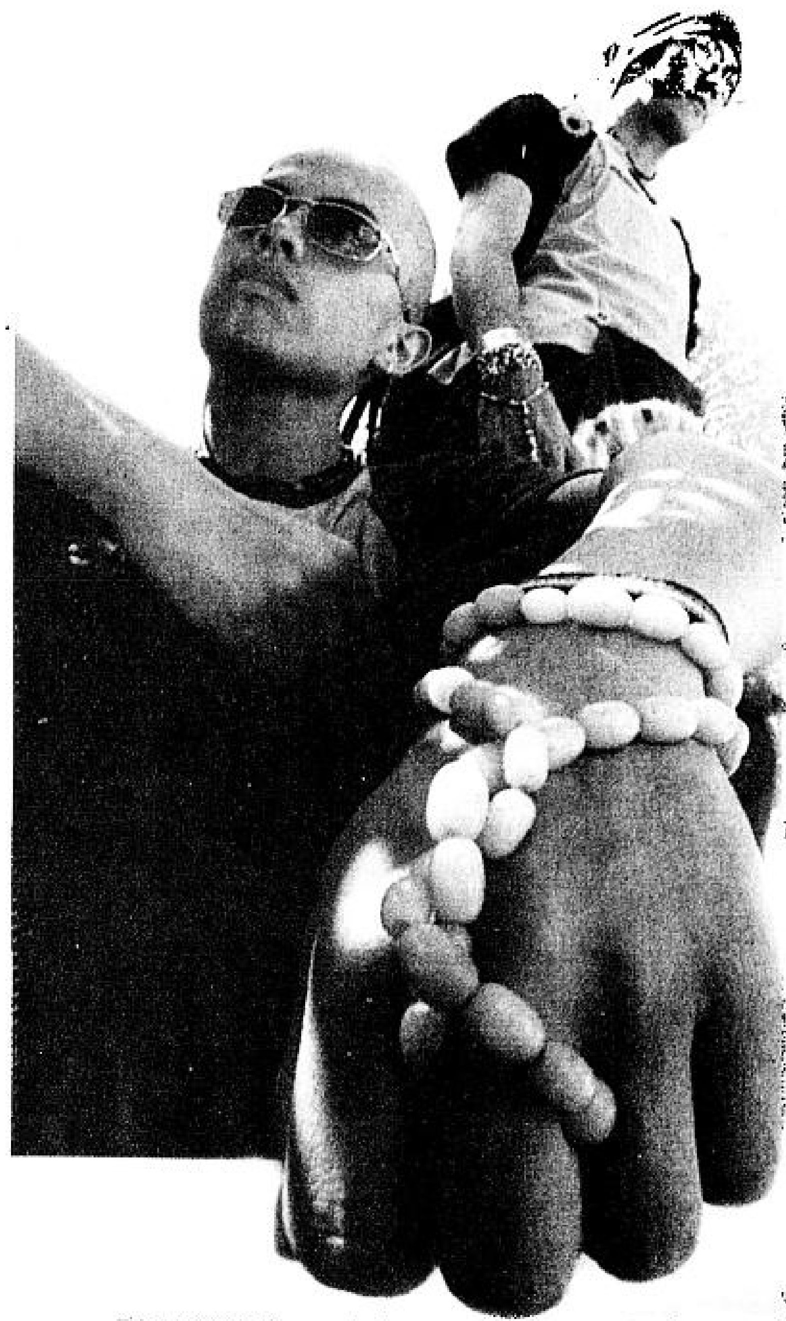
50 million youth deserve to be heard



WHEN 50 million young Filipinos start working together, the whole nation is bound to take notice.

This is the thinking behind the Pambansang Ugong ng Kabataan (PUNK) 2001, a series of regional youth summits in 16 sites across the country from Sept. 24 to 30, 2001. PUNK 2001 invites young Filipinos, of age 24 or below, from all social backgrounds for consultation on access to education, health, unemployment, drug addiction, abuse and other key issues affecting the youth today.

The idea is to get the youth – or at least a good sampling of them – to articulate a vision for themselves. And then to get them to commit to help make this happen.

Says Paolo Benigno "Bam" Aquino IV, commissioner-at-large of the National Youth Commission: "*Bumaliktad na ang mundo. Kung noon, ang matatanda ang huwaran ng kabataan, ngayon panahon na para ang kabataan ang maging huwaran ng lipunan.* The youth, with their number, sense of purpose and ideals, have the power to lead this country."

PUNK 2001 is being organized by the Department of Social Welfare and Development (DSWD), Department of Education (DepEd), Department of Labor and Employment (DOLE), Department of Interior and Local Government (DILG), and the National Anti-Poverty Commission together with the National Youth Commission (NYC). The Edsa People Power Commission also supports the program's thrust in youth empowerment.

PUNK 2001 is the first project that aims to fulfill President Gloria Macapagal-Arroyo's directive to develop a National Youth Agenda that will address the primary issues and concerns of the youth, which make up 60 percent of the country's population. Taking its cue from the United Nations Convention of the Rights of the Child, the National Youth Agenda seeks to create and enforce within three years government policies on the survival, protection, development and participation of the Filipino youth. PUNK 2001 will support the National Youth Agenda by presenting an action plan that the youth themselves can implement.

DSWD Secretary Corazon "Dinky" Soliman observes: "This generation is no longer content to sit in the sidelines and let the government do all the work. They simply can no longer be ignored. PUNK 2001 gives us the opportunity to hear their voice and help us form the policies and programs to meet their needs."

According to Education Secretary Raul Roco, PUNK 2001 acknowledges the power of the youth, which spurred the success of the Edsa II rallies early this year and began to make itself felt in last May's elections. Says Roco: "Filipino youth are the hope of today, not tomorrow. They are much more responsive and they are demanding for a recognition of their potential to lead the country." He notes that government agencies could tap this power by helping the youth organize themselves into proactive members of their communities.

Aquino adds: "We want to maximize their participation in the development process and at the same time make them self-reliant and more productive."

To ensure that the National Youth Agenda meets the needs of most Filipino youth, PUNK 2001 is giving special attention to out of school youth, working youth, and youth with special needs such as those with disabilities or are members of indigenous groups. These youth sectors compose four-fifths of the youth population. "We want the involvement of youth sectors who have long been neglected. Bringing all the youth together through PUNK is a step towards solving their common problems and issues," Aquino explains.

According to him, the two-day Regional Youth Summits will give the youth a venue to air their concerns specific to their communities. The summits feature focused-group discussions and a review of various laws, programs and projects intended for the youth. Representatives from the regional conferences will then discuss these issues at the National Youth Summit on Nov. 8 to 10, 2001.

"I believe that if the youth come together, we can achieve a lot towards helping the government create focused policies for the youth," Aquino notes.

Members or officers of youth organizations are invited to participate in the PUNK 2001 Regional Youth Summits. For more information, call the regional office of the DSWD.

BAM AQUINO, commissioner-at-large of the National Youth Commission (right, standing): *"Bumaliktad na ang mundo."*

Interactive.gen takes over

IMAGINE a place where there are no televisions, no computers, no cellphones. While some may consider such a place a hideaway, 50 million Filipinos under 24 would consider that the ultimate punishment, according to the McCann Youth Study.

Move over, baby-boomers and GenXers. Welcome to Interactive.gen. This is a generation bred on MTV and MP3s, modems and mobile phones, role-playing computer games and the Internet. No longer intent to just take in what media and adults feed them, they seek to be heard and recognized – even when they are just playing computer games. They surf, chat, text, and download. And they don't just belong to the affluent families of Metro Manila. The nationwide survey conducted by McCann-Erickson Philippines discovered that 13- to 21-year olds in all social classes today are more social and connectivity-driven than ever before.

"With the kind of physical and social environment they now live in, they feel a much stronger need to be stimulated by the world around them," explained Nandy Villar, Vice President for Strategic Planning of McCann-Erickson. The McCann Youth Study, which sought to understand the values, morals, attitudes and practices of young Filipinos, noted that social activities like eating out, going to the mall, hanging out with friends, and talking on the phone have become more popular than in 1992, when the study was first undertaken.

TXT power

One key reason for this is the availability of technologies that allow the youth to communicate and connect with other people and the outside world. Cellphones, cable TV, and the Internet, which were unheard of by previous generations, are now accessible even to those living outside Manila and in class C-D families.

Media is another powerful influence on the youth. According to focus group discussions by McCann-Erickson, media coverage of recent political events has encouraged the consciousness and participation of

INTERACTIVE.GEN/ G4

Interactive.gen takes over

(From page G3)

youth in issues affecting the country. But while the youth are tuned-in and genuinely interested in the country's political environment as covered in mass media, their concerns are still centered on getting through economic difficulty. With less trust in government institutions, the prevailing attitude towards the country's political landscape is filled with cynicism and an enduring mindset that—at the end of the day—they still have to rely on themselves and their families if they want something better to happen in their lives. Youth in Mindanao were found to be "significantly more outspoken and politicized" than counterparts elsewhere, perhaps in response to the greater need for progress in Mindanao.

Changing values

On the other hand, Villar admitted that there are drawbacks to this newfound empowerment. For one thing, schoolwork has declined significantly as young people give more attention to other leisure activities. Increased exposure to media and new technologies has also contributed to the changing moral standards and the concepts of role models among young people. In fact, there has been a marked increase over eight years ago in the number of youth who indicated showbiz personalities as the ones they admire most – at the expense of figures in the home who, in the past, served as much more influential role models.

Among the other findings of the study are:

- Most young people begin smoking, dating, drinking alcoholic beverages at age 16.
- More young people tolerate pre-marital sex, divorce/separation, and alcohol intake now than eight years ago.
- 25 percent of those who have had sexual intercourse are not worried about sexually-transmitted diseases, although this proportion seems to indicate an increase as compared to eight years ago.
- A significant number say they would consider abortion under certain situations.

According to the study, parents and schools should adjust to the changes in the social environment in order to influence young people. Teaching methods that encourage the participation of students would get them to focus better on schoolwork. Parents also need to interact more with their children. Villar added: "Beyond taking interest in their studies and schoolwork, young people seem to appreciate more involved parenting styles that are based on love and friendship, instead of fear and authority."

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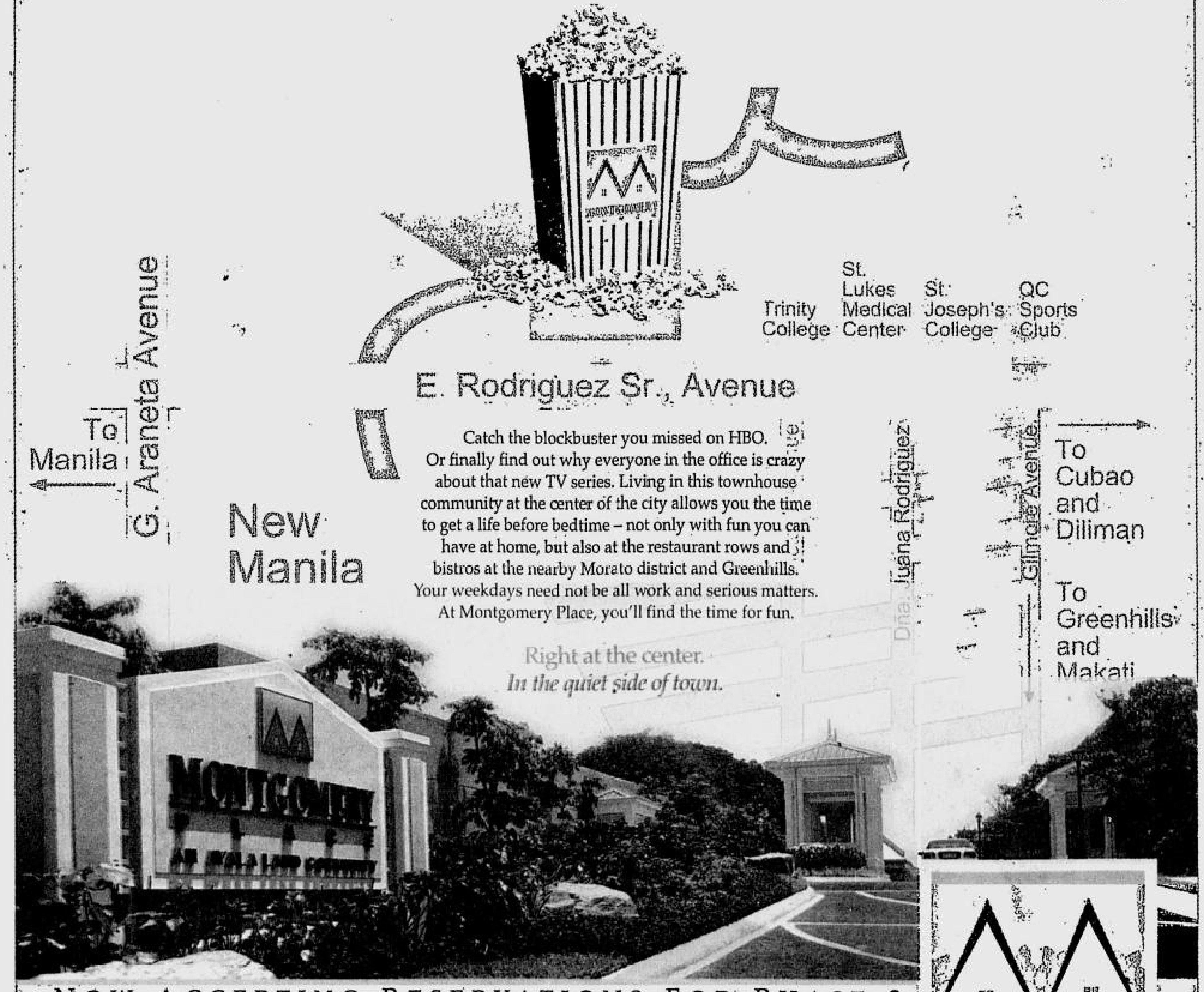

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SEPTEMBER 24-30, 2001 • PUNK 2001 Regional Youth Summits

THE REGIONAL Youth Summits are slated from Sept. 24 to Sept. 30, 2001 but exact schedules vary from region to region.

To find out the dates and venues of the Regional Youth Summits in your area, please contact the DWSD Coordinator in your region.

Deadline for signups is September 19, 2001.

- Region I - **Naomi Escalona** – 888-6196 RD, 888-2505/4180, 888-2184 Fax
- Region II - **Rolando Sto. Tomas** – 844-5482 RD, 844-1636/846-7532, 916-1346 Fax
- Region III - **Lalaine Rambaoa** – 961-2143 RD telefax, 860-5631/30/29
- Region IV - **Precy** – 807-7102 RD, 842-84-57 ARD
- Region V - **Manny Luna** – 214-3114 RD, 480-5764/5346, 214-3115 Fax
- Region VI - **Che Guevara** – 336-5428 RD, 336-5427/336-5425, 335-0771 telefax RD
- Region VII - **Che Cabatingan** – 232-9507 RD, 232-9505/0036/0261, 231-21-72 Fax
- Region VIII - **Angelica Avila** – 321-2040 RD/1176 ARD, 321-2524/1456/3090, 321-1007 Fax, 325-2906 CIU
- Region IX - **Atty. Aracelli Solanillo & Junaida Bagis** – 991-1326 RD, 991-7659, 991-6056/30/41-13 CIU
- Region X - **Della Martinez & Rosemarie Conde** – 858-8143 RD, 858-8892, 858-6333 telefax
- Region XI - **Minda Brigoli** – 227-1435 RD, 226-3736/227-8746
- Region XII - **Peter Ceriales** – 421-1241 RD, 421-1238/39/40, 421-9717 Fax
- CARAGA - **Angelica Anista Dione Bayotas** – 342-7605 RD, 342-5619, 342-5620 Fax
- ARMM - **Hja nadjemeh Mokiin Kaye Linlugan, Normalia** – 421-5703, 421-5003 Fax
- CAR - **Evelyn Lorenzo & Perlita Panganiban** – 442-8619 RD, 304-3949 (ARD)
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Greenpeace and Body Shop link up for clean energy

SEEING GREEN

Doris Gaskell Nuyda

TWO international organizations, Greenpeace and Body Shop, have teamed up to raise the awareness of people everywhere to the critical issues of climate change and poverty. Their joint campaign is specifically directed at the G8, a group composed of the richest, most developed countries in the world, who have the capability to help their less-endowed neighbors.

Their ultimate objective is to prevent anticipated global catastrophes resulting from greenhouse gas emissions by switching from fossil fuel to clean and renewable energy sources.

It is essential, the spokespersons of the two organizations say, that the two billion people classified as nonusers of electrical energy (because they can't afford it) be provided with clean energy within 10 years. The two billion come from marginalized societies from all over the world. Whole countries are listed among them and certain areas in others. They need energy for their livelihood and to improve their economic condition. Ironically, these societies are least responsible for global warming and greenhouse gas emissions. If renewable energy sources work for those two billion, the message this will convey is that the same can work for everyone else.

The choice of climate change as the reason for a tie-up was based on scientific studies on the impact climate change will have on people and the earth itself. Rising global temperatures bring droughts, storms, flooding. Pests that thrive in warmer temperatures are bound to increase the incidence of diseases like dengue and malaria. One need not ask what these will do to the economies of the world.

Why did the two organizations decide to link up in the first place? When Anita Roddick opened a small cosmetic shop in Brighton, England in 1976, her aim was to create a company that would act as a force for positive change. From the beginning, the company operated with a set of strict environmental core values—no animal-testing, environmental protection; community trade; and community involvement/campaigns.

Mia Bellen, PR and communications officer of the Manila office, explains that Roddick always believed that commerce should come with a conscience. Companies making a profit from a society have the responsibility to return something to that community. So, says Bellen, "Roddick dedicated her skin- and hair-care business to the pursuit of social and environmental change."

This year, Body Shop teamed up with Greenpeace, renowned for its activism and expertise in conducting such campaigns. Greenpeace was happy to be a partner since climate change is one of its main targets (the other two are toxics and genetically engineered food).

Both groups are recognized internationally and they use their global presence to expand their campaign. Body Shop has 1,800 branches in 48 countries, 20 of them in the Philippines.

Greenpeace, according to Red Constantino, climate and energy campaigner for Greenpeace Phils., finds this partnership unique, for in general, it prefers to do things on its own through its members and volunteers. It is strict about accepting funding from outside sources, apart from membership fees. It works practically everywhere in the world and is mobile enough to go after illegal activities and implement environmental laws where needed. The Philippine office, he adds, has eight regular staffers—a director, three assigned to specific campaigns (climate change, toxics and GE foods), and four support staff). The rest, 50 on the average, are volunteers.

Link-up launched

The local launch of the Greenpeace-Body Shop campaign will be held on Sept. 14. It is intended to build up the momentum of public interest and awareness leading to the global launch scheduled on Earth Day in April next year.

Meanwhile, the local Body Shop stores (18 in Metro Manila, two in Cebu), are laying the groundwork toward that end. They have especially made merchandise, like stuffed toys of Philippine marine life (e.g. *pawikan*, dolphins), proceeds from which will go to the purchase of solar panels. These solar panels will be given to selected communities or schools or clinics to be used as renewable and clean energy source.

Clean energy messages will also be written out on posters, leaflets, even on the company website. People can express their opinions and views on the twin environmental issues—clean energy and poverty—through special postcards available at the Body Shop where they will be collected, then sent to Malacañang to let the President know the people's concerns on these issues.

Greenpeace is very visible—and audible—in schools, the first venues of its campaign. Constantino himself is often invited as guest speaker at school affairs, invariably using such occasions to expound on the importance and urgency of curbing greenhouse gas emissions. His speeches explain in no-nonsense terms the impact of climate change on the people and the survival of the planet itself. Which is why the G8 and local governments must be challenged to act now.

All those who advocate unified action to avert the global catastrophe that is bound to occur, regret that one country in particular (one that has the most clout to influence the change to renewable energy sources) has not come up to be counted, citing economic and financial reasons. And yet, as Constantino told his audience recently, "... rich countries which harbor less than a fourth of humanity are responsible for the great majority of greenhouse gas emissions in the atmosphere..."

Filipinos would do well to take heed and do their part.

Top honors for white beauty

MOTHER and daughter Cora and Anna Purificacion won top honors at the recent Philippine Orchid Society (POS) midyear exhibit and competition at the Quezon City memorial circle.

The Purificacions' white *phalaenopsis equestris* won awards for best in show, best species and best culture.

Purificacion, who has a farm in Alfonso, Cavite, also won the best Philippine species and the best in other genera for the *phalus tancarvilleae.* Another butterfly orchid from a collection started by Purificacion's late son Eric, the *phal. hakalau* queen, won the award for best Phalaenopsis alliance.

Purificacion also won top honors during the POS show at the Shangri-La Plaza mall in February.

The award for best landscaped booth went to the team of Kelvin Manubay, POS first vice president, Herominio Ong, Ria Luna, Betty Duterte, Evangeline Lee, Fred Salud and Rolita Spowarts. Ong also received an award for best cattleya alliance and best novelty cattleya while Manubay got the best dendrobium award.

Other winners were Andres Golamco Jr., Teresa Baldonado, Vic Chin Jr. and Evangeline Lee.

A special feature of the show was a display of old photos and memorabilia of the society's 55 years.

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4 2 pcs. Pork Barbecue Rice and Regular Softdrink P55
2 1 pc. Golden Chicken with Gravy Rice and Regular Softdrink P49
5 Dinuguan, 2 pcs. Big Puto or Rice, and Regular Softdrink P62
3 Breaded Porkchop Rice and Regular Softdrink P49
6 Pork Inihaw with Laing Rice and Regular Softdrink P67
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New generation TVs are flatter and sharper

PHILIPS has launched a new wave of television designs featuring impressive and highly advanced technological innovations.

The new TV sets are designed to give consumers the best in home viewing.

During the launch, "A Blend of Art and Technology," Philips introduced the new models that "perfectly combine form and function, delivering unmatched performance." The TVs carry such features as best picture quality, progressive scan, double window display, digital crystal clear, Scavem and digital comb filter.

Philips' new Plasma TV, cited in the 2000 Industrie Forum Design awards as one of the best-designed consumer electronic products of the year, is a true flat model that can hang on the wall like a painting. It integrates the latest state-of-the-art digital technology like the Digital Natural Motion (DNM) and Digital Crystal Clear (DCC), bringing real cinema-style viewing into the home. The TV is a nominee in Europe's Best Plasma TV of the Year 2001.

COLOR monitor with excellent front of screen performance for use with MACs and PCs

MARKETING TACK. Rajo Laurel makes a collection for the launch of Philips new Flat TVs.

PHOTO BY CHITO VECINA

Matchline Real Flat TV features the progressive scan technology in both 29" and 34" screens giving home viewers more stable picture that is sharper and clearer. The technology eliminates flickering pictures and lines that cause eye strain.

With sharper picture, improved text readability and no perceptible interline flicker, the TV allows for more relaxing viewing.

The Philips TV with DVD Built-in has all the features of the Matchline Real Flat. It combines the best features of DVD entertainment with that of a high performance Philips flat screen TV. Both DVD and TV are operated with just one remote control. The model also features fully immersive Dolby Surround Sound support.

For top-quality performance in large screen TV displays, Philips offers Projection 43", 50" and 55". Special MagnaBrite lenses ensure superb brightness and contrast levels. Philips Projection TV is designed with an optional stand allowing for the integration of products like VCR and DVD players.

Design Line TVs offer an impressive range of sets combining contemporary design and superior technology, particularly the 100 Hz Digital Scan Technology, which feature stable and flicker-free pictures. Fashioned from glass and metal, it features a fully integrated aluminum stand with high quality finish that creates a solid structure for the set.

The local market is shifting toward the flat television not only because of its sharper image and digital features but also because the design is sleek, albeit artsy. Previously, 30 percent of the consumers favored the flat TV. Today the statistics have gone up to 60 percent

Philips has been experiencing stable growth. In the year 2000, it posted 30-percent increase over 1999 figures. This year the company is targeting 15 percent. Customers want something reasonably priced and showing the latest in technology. Unlike the VCD, the DVD market is still in its infancy because the software is not readily available and the price is steep. Despite the economy, the company is ready to change with the times.

MAGNABRITE LENSES. Rival images produced by conventional TV tube technology.

Mailed gifts that come on time

AMONG the Asians, Filipinos are the most well-known religious gift-givers, especially when sending presents across the miles. For this reason, LBC's *padala* services reach a high during the pre-Christmas rush.

Special greetings, letters and practical gift items that can be accommodated in an LBC pack quickly find their way to expectant family members residing in the provinces. Students or office workers who don't get to come home for the holidays are not forgotten, too, because an LBC Express Delivery (whether it is a much-awaited *pamasko* or photos of the family) will always make it on time for Christmas or the New Year.

LBC offers a variety of products to choose from depending on the weight of one's gift or letter. The most popular receptacle is the Pesopak. This is used for cash shipments in Philippine currency to be delivered within 24 hours to a destination within the LBC delivery zones.

Because of LBC's wide network, deliveries are efficiently made despite the Christmas rush, unlike the postal services which normally get flooded with delays due to the volume of mail that goes out during the holidays.

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Per DTI-NCR Permit No. A3-512 Series of 2001

LIFESTYLE

Trend Spotting

TOUCH Mobile's voice-guided technology makes getting in touch with friends and loved ones a real pleasure.

Txt iliter8? Try voice messaging

By Cherish Garcia Hernandez

FIVE years ago, when "texting" was new, most people were hesitant to use it. It was a novel and unknown means of communication.

Today, almost everyone—in the Philippines at least—knows how to "text." The cellular phone has become a necessary appendage and many people cannot function without it. At the gym I see people leave everything but their cell phones in the lockers. It has become a way of life and such a vital tool in daily communication that you cannot pry people away from their mobile phones.

Isla Communications, in cooperation with Globe Telecom, is taking cellular communications another step forward with its new service, Touch Mobile. Aside from text messaging, call waiting and all the other services people regularly avail of, touch mobile users will have the added advantage of voice messaging.

This is not to be confused with voice mail, which requires checking one's mailbox for messages and can take time. Voice messaging, on the other hand, is instant. The technology is now being used in places like Italy and Hong Kong.

You know how sometimes you want to send a message but it is too long to transmit as text? Well, voice messaging is the logical alternative. The recipient's phone will keep ringing until he/she

TXT/ p.H2

TOUCH Mobile's easy technology takes away the complications from a cell phone service—all you need to do is listen.

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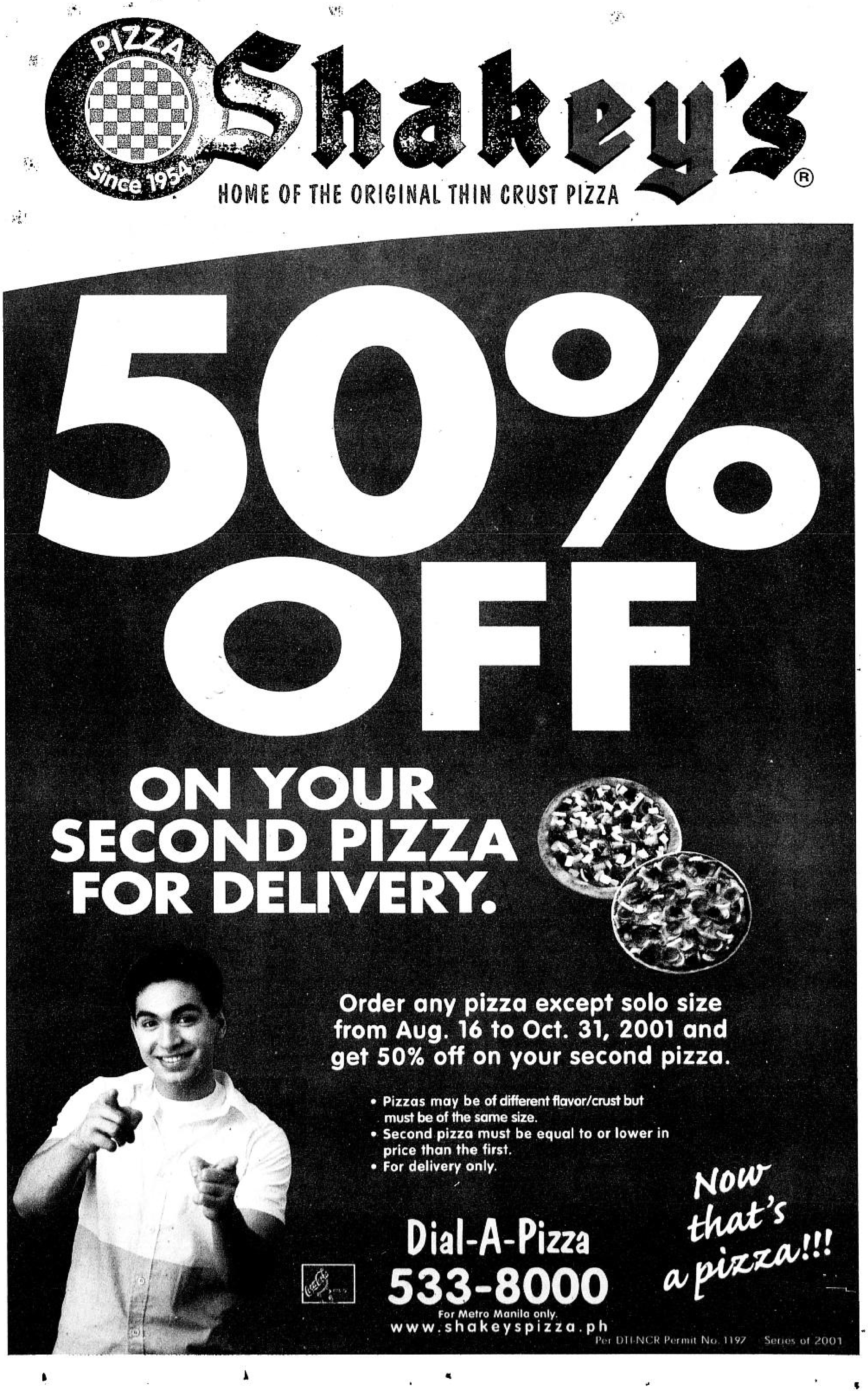

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A delightful birthday feast

BIRTHDAY celebrator Rupert Jacinto with party host David Lim and Minnie Osmeña

RITA Ledesma, Rupert Jacinto and Paz Yuchengco

GEORGE Sison and Tina Jacinto

TINA Jacinto, David Lim and George Sison hosted a dinner for birthday celebrator Rupert Jacinto at the Essensa in Fort Bonifacio.

Guests included Paz Yuchengco, who plays host for Rupert on his birthday with Chinese cooking at her home or at a nearby restaurant every year. "You broke tradition this year," she told Rupert.

Also in attendance were Rita Ledesma, who has been Rupert and Tina's friend since their New York days; Minnie Osmeña, one of Rupert's favorite photographic subjects and whom Rupert has photographed from Beverly Hills to Park Avenue; George Sison, whose friendship with the couple goes back to the time when George's mom, Priscilla Sison, was part of their regular group in their wine-bar-hopping in New York; good friends Dr. Ramon Pastor and his lovely wife, Cynthia. (Ramon is the famed Filipino doctor who operated on Marilyn Monroe, and several photos with the legendary actress fill the Pastor scrapbook.); Tita Trillo of Anthony's Wines and Beluga Bar Restaurant; good friend Ping Valencia; Rupert's sister Baby Favis, with her husband Danny, who accompanied the guests at the piano; David Lim, an avid photographer-hobbyist himself, and whose longstanding friendship with Rupert and Tina goes back to the artist-photographer's exhibits in Washington, D.C., Palm Beach and New York. One thing the guests had in common: they were all "shot" by Rupert.

David prepared a special Caesar's salad, which he had learned in Morocco. George and David had asked Tina to cook all the favorites of Rupert. She prepared caviar, salmon fillets with white wine sauce, garlic chicken stuffed with brie, pasta with anchovies and shiitake mushrooms and Beef Wellington. The guests all praised Tina for having prepared such a feast.

After dinner, George Sison, New Thought guru, led the guests with a prosperous birthday affirmation, and each one gave a toast, followed by clinking of their champagne glasses.

Late in the evening, Minnie invited the group to view her new penthouse condo at nearby Pacific Plaza Towers. They ooohed and aaahed at the grand two-storied glass-walled wonder.

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3 STAMPS	1 SACK SUNRICE Dinorado Rice 10 Kg.	OR	1 PIECE SALZBURG Armchair Weave Design
4 STAMPS	1 PACK PRINGLES (12 x 50 G.)	OR	1 PIECE US Heavy Bath Towel
5 STAMPS	1 CASE JACK 'N JILL Chippy (100 x 30 G.)	OR	1 PIECE NB Scooter All Steel
6 STAMPS	1 CAN MAGIC FRY Oil 17 Kg.	OR	1 PIECE NB Folding Table Laminated 24" x 36"
7 STAMPS	1 CASE SURF Bar (36's)	OR	1 PIECE Body Pillow with Cover
8 STAMPS	1 SACK SAVPACK Long Grain Rice 25 Kg.	OR	1 PIECE Decor Frameworks Center Shelf 3 Layers
9 STAMPS	1 CASE 555 Sardines (100 x 155 G.)	OR	1 PIECE TRIO CD Storage 30-CD Capacity
10 STAMPS	1 CASE JOY Bathroom Tissue (6 x 12's)	OR	1 PIECE KYOWA Rice Dispenser 25 Kg. Capacity

	FOOD GROUP LIST		NON-FOOD GROUP LIST
20 STAMPS	2 CASES PONKANA Orange (48 x 250 G.)	OR	1 PIECE Computer Chair w/ Gaslift & Arms
30 STAMPS	2 CASES ARGENTINA Corned Beef (48 x 175 G.)	OR	1 PIECE SENTRY Fire-Safe Security Chest 1100
40 STAMPS	14 CASES COKE In Cans (24x330 mL.)	OR	1 PIECE PANASONIC Cordless Phone KXT-C1025
50 STAMPS	All items included in the 1-10 stamps list (Food Group list only)	OR	All items included in the 1-10 stamps list (Non-Food Group list only)
60 STAMPS	3 CASES TIDE Ultra (396 x 32 G.)	OR	1 PIECE PHILIPS VCD/MP3 Player CD/GV80
70 STAMPS	5 CASES SAFEGUARD Soap (96 x 90 G.)	OR	1 PIECE SHARP Color TV 14" 14V-K80M
80 STAMPS	2 CASES FUNDADOR 12 x 1 Liter	OR	1 PIECE CANON Fax Machine T37
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Txt iliter8? Try voice messaging

(From page H1)

receives the message and the sender will receive confirmation that it was received so it is quite reliable. You can send a message up to a minute in length, which should be more than enough time.

Fun sound icons will also be made available. These can be combined with a personal message—for instance, if you want to greet a man on his birthday in a sexy way, they have a Marilyn Monroe type singing the birthday song. In addition, several other options are available—funny, formal, special occasion greetings, even birthday greetings in other languages.

I sampled a Halloween message that had "scary" voices and sounds in the background and an ominous deep voice greeting me "Happy Halloween." I was told that the "You hurt me" message has sounds of breaking plates in the background. Basically this is a creative way of expressing your feelings. The voice equivalent of the icons of hearts and birthday cakes we see on cellular phones. These prerecorded sound icons are the first of their kind in the world.

Aside from the messaging features, the Touch Mobile also has voice information available. Dialing one number will give you a menu of information available. You can check your daily horoscope, listen to the latest *tsismis* courtesy of Boy Abunda, check out movie schedules, traffic and weather reports, and check breaking news from ABS-CBN as well as monitor the stock market and the Forex index.

According to Ana de Villa Singson, Globe's assistant vice president for marketing, Touch Mobile is better than information services already available like WAP, because it is simplified technology. Keywords and complicated instructions are not needed. SIM cards do not have to be changed nor is there a need to wait for connections.

One only has to listen to get the information he/she needs. This is great for people who want the convenience of information at their fingertips but who don't have the time or patience for complicated codes and keywords. These same people might also want an easier and more convenient alternative to text messaging.

Touch Mobile also does not need a specific handset. It also offers very low airtime rates, doing away with the peak and off-peak hours and just having flat rates throughout the day. Subscribers will get great value for their money. A SIM pack kit worth P690 will give you P300 worth of voice calls as well as 120 free text messages. And you avail of all of Touch Mobile's services as well.

If you want to check out the Touch Mobile and its features, major malls have booths where you can try it out starting today. Not just dummy phones either. You can send sound icons and voice messages to your friends for free regardless of what service they use.

E-mail the author at cherishgh@yahoo.com

Filipino designs world-class shoe

PHILIPPINE-BORN pro-skater Willy Santos presents the latest edition of his skate shoes from Vans, Willy Santos II. Constructed from a polyurethane-coated combination of feather, synthetic and mesh, the shoes feature TPR-injected ollie and lace protection for secure fit in whatever condition or position. Hometown Hero Magazine's Skate Shoe Review has described the new shoes as "super comfortable" and "very light." Distributed locally by R.S.H. Marketing (Philippines) Inc., Vans shoes and apparel are available at all leading department stores sports and footwear retail outlets and department stores nationwide.

AYALA CORPORATION

Singapore
Telecom
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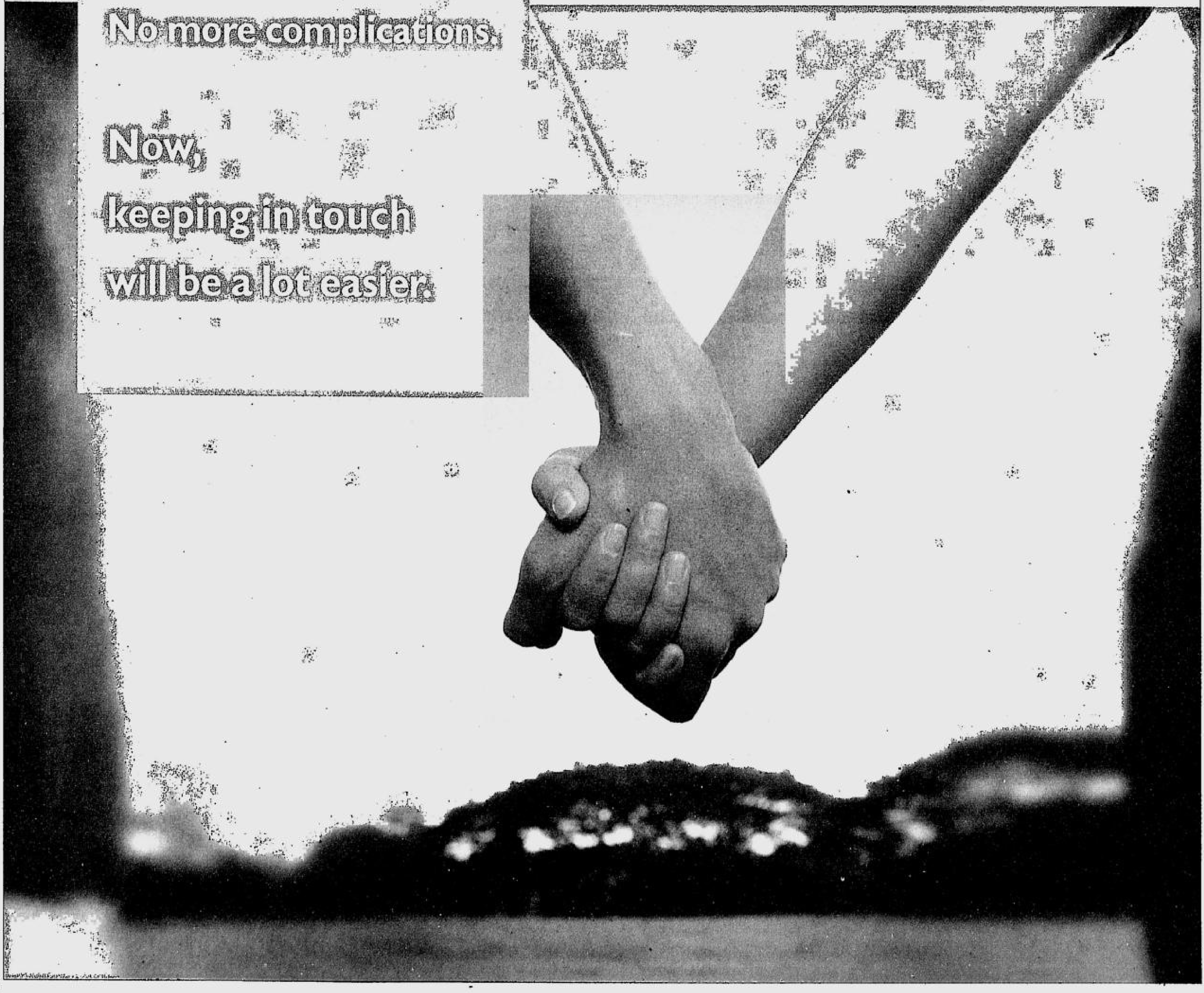
Expect big changes
as three giants
combine forces
to give you the newest,
revolutionary
cell phone service.

No more complications.

Now,
keeping in touch
will be a lot easier.



Finally... no more complications in a new cell pho
with revolutionary voice-guided te

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touch
mobile

Easy technology. Easily in touch.

Nationwide coverage with over 1,400 cell sites.

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Get TOUCH Mobile from any Globe or Islacom Business Center or any cell phone dealer. For details call 730-1500 or visit www.touchmobile.com.ph
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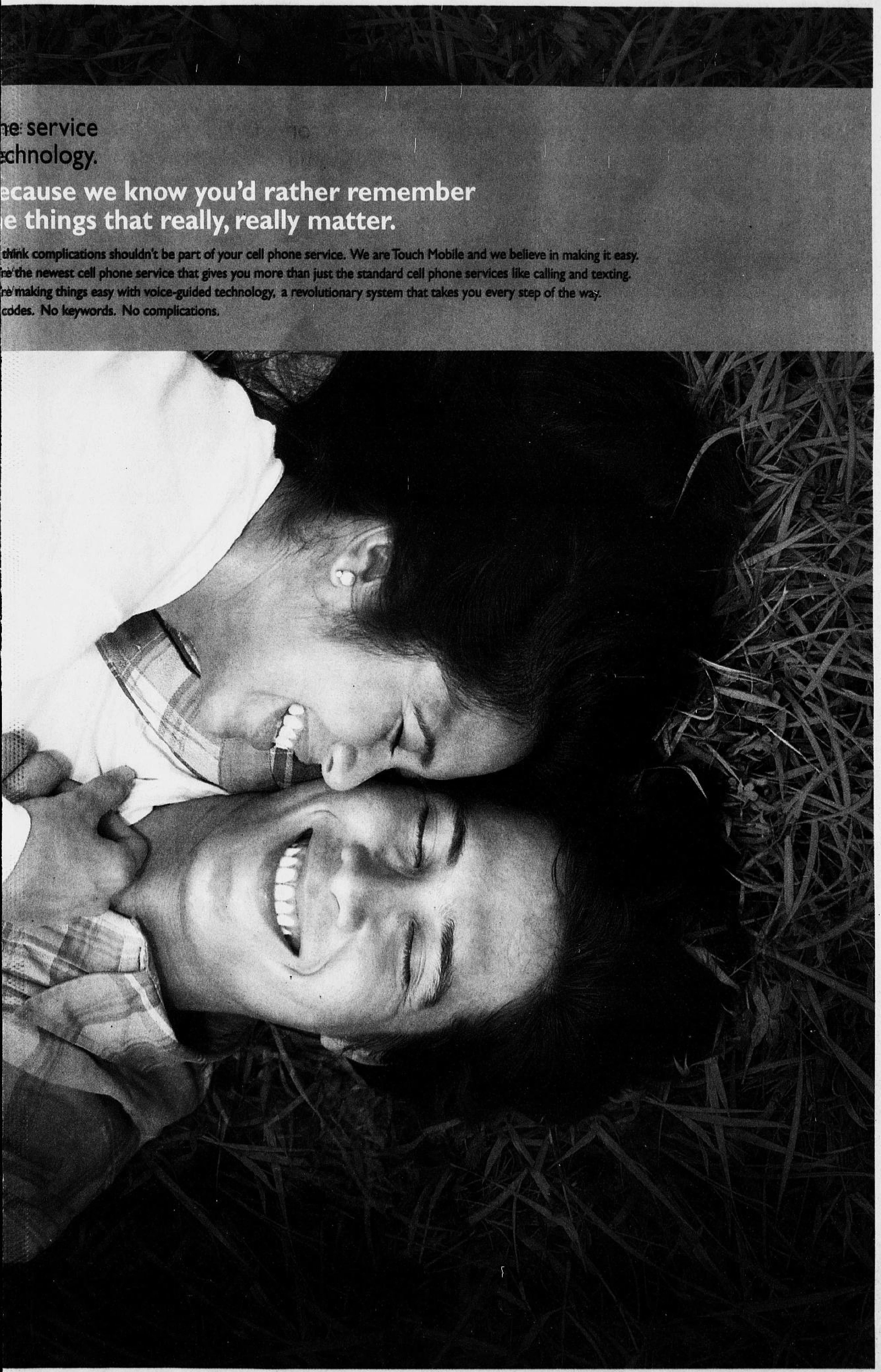
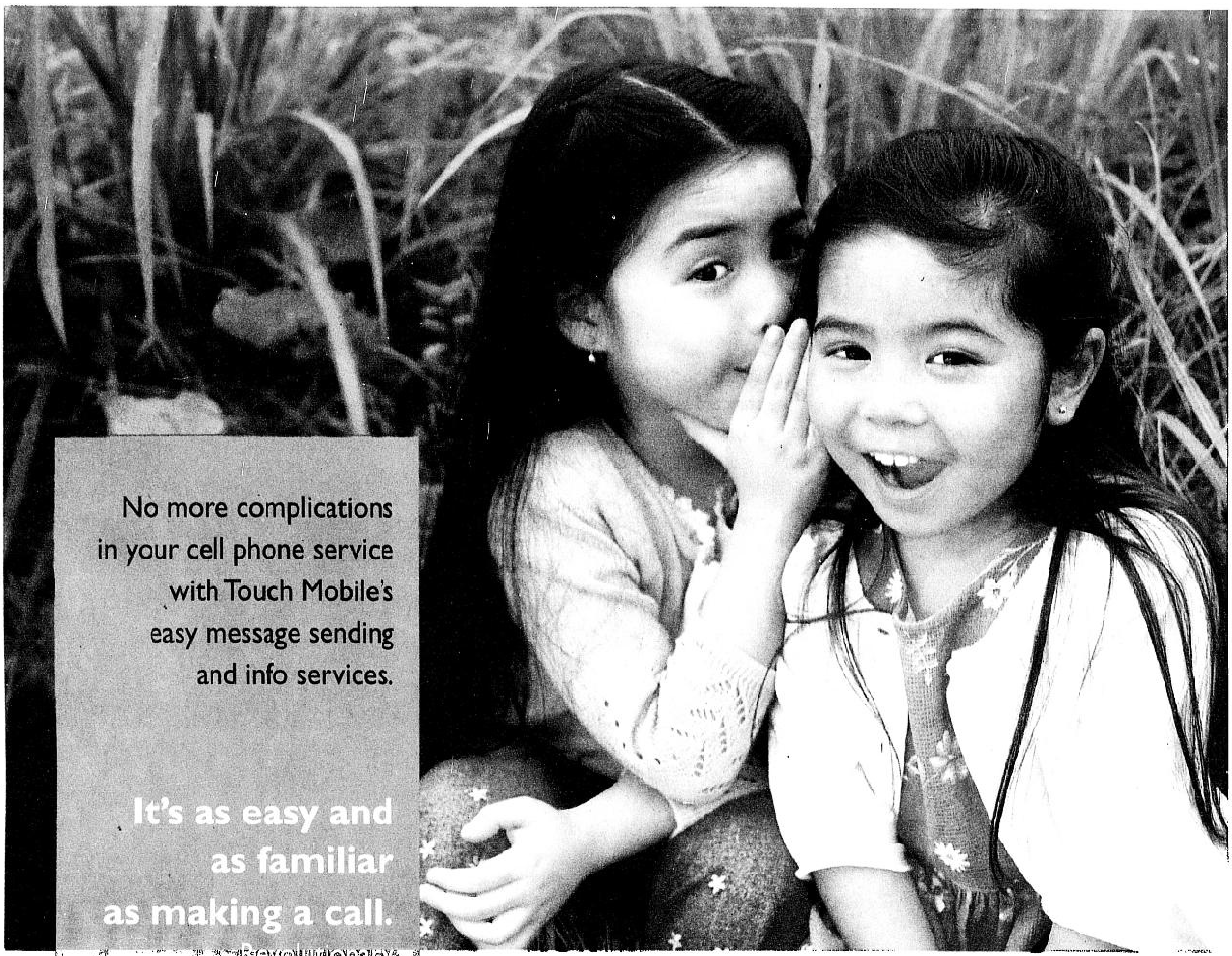


ne service
echnology.

ecause we know you'd rather remember
e things that really, really matter.

think complications shouldn't be part of your cell phone service. We are Touch Mobile and we believe in making it easy.
re the newest cell phone service that gives you more than just the standard cell phone services like calling and texting.
re making things easy with voice-guided technology, a revolutionary system that takes you every step of the way.
codes. No keywords. No complications.



No more complications
in your cell phone service
with Touch Mobile's
easy message sending
and info services.

**It's as easy and
as familiar
as making a call.**

Revolutionary
voice-guided technology
makes it easy.
A system that takes you
every step of the way.
No codes. No keywords.

VOICE INFO

All you have to do is listen.

Just dial 8140 and our voice system will guide you on how to get info from Top News, Money Matters, Movie Skeds, Traffic, Horoscopes and even Showbiz News. No need to change simcards. No keywords. (P3.00 per minute)

VOICE MESSAGING

Send it with feelings.

Just dial 8160 and simply record your voice and send as a message or send creative sound icons (pre-recorded messages) from Birthday, Everyday, Friendship, Anniversary, Romance and Special Occasion Messages.
(P3.00 per minute plus P3.00 delivery fee per recipient. Available starting end of September.)

touch
mobile

Easy technology. Easily in touch.

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No more complications
in your cell phone service
with voice-guided technology.
Touch Mobile's services
are easy to enjoy.

EASY SCHEMES
so you can easily afford to have one!

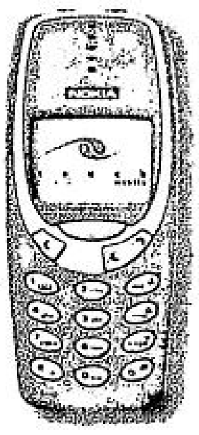
EXTENSIVE COVERAGE
so you're always easily in touch.

*We have over **1,400** digital cell sites around the country to give you the clearest connections possible.*

NO PEAK, OFF-PEAK RATES

*Only **P6.50** per minute to any cell phone and local landlines. Enjoy easy technology anytime of the day.*

Touch Mobile Call cards are available in P 300 & P 500 values. Enjoy all Touch Mobile services with just one SIM Card.

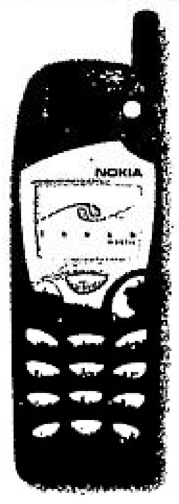


Nokia 3310

- Voice Dialling
- Screen Saver
- SMS Chat,
- Multiple SMS Sending
- Talktime: 4.5 hours
- Standby time: 260 hrs.

- Get a FREE handsfree kit
(Promo valid from Sept. 14 – Oct. 14, 2001)

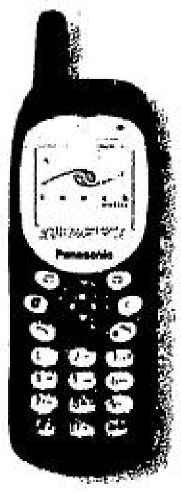
Phonekit price:
₱ 6,290



Nokia 5110i

- Changeable front color covers
- Updated Navigation Keys
- Personalized picture message
- Talktime: 5.0 hrs.
- Standby time: 270 hrs.

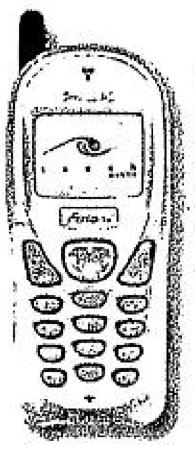
Phonekit price:
₱ 4,390



Panasonic GD35

- Small and light for ease of carrying
- Large view area
- Clock
- Alarm
- Calculator
- Games

Phonekit price:
₱ 4,190

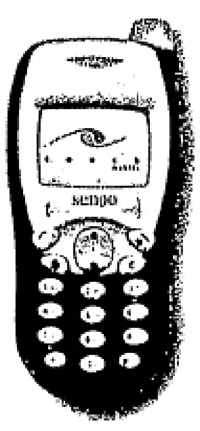


Philips Fisio 311

- Big graphic screen
- Full Carousel Interface
- Animated Screen Savers
- 50 emotion icons
- Talktime: 3.0 hrs.
- Standby time: 300 hrs.

- Get a FREE cell phone stand
(Promo valid from Sept. 14 – Oct. 14, 2001)

Phonekit price:
₱ 4,890



Sendo S200

- User friendly menus
- Receive and compose ringtones
- 6-liner with animated graphics
- SMS picture messaging
- Talktime: 3.0 hrs
- Standby time: 300 hrs.

Phonekit price:
₱ 4,890

Siemens A36

- Dual band
- High resolution screen
- Weighs 120 grams
- Talktime: 4.0 hrs.
- Standby time: 348 hrs.

Phonekit price:
₱ 2,990

TOUCH MOBILE SIMPACK Kit is PhP690 only.
Each phone kit package includes a handset and the Touch Mobile SIMPACK kit.

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Singapore Telecom International
Deutsche Telekom

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TLC Total Lower Cost

MOONCAKE FESTIVAL

CHOICE HARVEST
Honey Mandarin
*Not available in Makati
TLC PRICE
P70.00 /kg.
Reg. Price 106.00/kg.

MONTEREY
Beef Short Ribs
TLC PRICE
P110.00 /kg.
Reg. Price 126.00/kg.

SWIFT
Mighty Meaty Hotdog
- Longs Regular
1 kg.
TLC PRICE
P134.00 /pk.
Reg. Price 141.00

PURE DELIGHT
Chicken Hotdog Clear
- Regular
1 kg.
TLC PRICE
P90.00 /pk.
Reg. Price 99.00

CHUAN TECK
Squid Ball Special
400 g.
TLC PRICE
P49.00 /pk.
Reg. Price 55.00

PUREFOODS
Honeycured Bacon
- Sliced
400 g.
TLC PRICE
P115.00 /pk.
Reg. Price 121.75

LASAP
Premium Sinigang
Tamarind Mix
40 g.
TLC PRICE
P7.75 /ea.
Reg. Price 9.00

MARCA PIÑA
Sukang Puti
1 Liter
TLC PRICE
P15.50 /btl.
Reg. Price 16.75

DOLE
Tomato Sauce
Pouch
1 kg.
TLC PRICE
P47.00
Reg. Price 47.50

JUFRAN
Sweet Chili Sauce
330 g.
TLC PRICE
P23.50 /btl.
Reg. Price 25.00

CENTURY
Tuna
- Chunks in Water
184 g.
TLC PRICE
P21.50 /ea.
Reg. Price 21.95

CENTURY
Tuna
- Afritada
- Mechado
- Caldereta
155 g./ 5's
TLC PRICE
P70.25 /pk.
Reg. Price 71.50

AYAM
Sardines
- In Tomato Sauce
425 g./ 2's
With Plate
TLC PRICE
P135.50 /pk.
Reg. Price 149.50

BOUNTY FOOD
- Lechon Paksiw
- Bistek Tagalog
- Kare-Kare
- Chicken Adobo
155 g.
TLC PRICE
P15.00 /ea.
Reg. Price 16.50

PUREFOODS
Carne Norte
175 g.
TLC PRICE
P20.75 /ea.
Reg. Price 22.50

ARGENTINA
Meat Loaf
170 g.
TLC PRICE
P11.50 /ea.
Reg. Price 12.50

CAMPO CARNE
Chinese Luncheon
Meat
375 g.
TLC PRICE
P30.75 /ea.
Reg. Price 33.25

DEL MONTE
Fiesta Fruit Cocktail
850 g.
TLC PRICE
P44.75 /ea.
Reg. Price 49.75

KNORR
Cream Cup a Soup
- Mushroom, 16 g.
- Corn, 18 g.
- Chicken, 16 g.
- Seafood, 17 g.
3's
TLC PRICE
P17.75 /pk.
Reg. Price 18.50

LUCKY ME!
Instant Pancit Canton
- Hot Chili
65 g.
TLC PRICE
P4.60 /ea.
Reg. Price 4.70

KRAFT
Cheddar Cheese
200 g.
TLC PRICE
P41.00 /ea.
Reg. Price 43.50

MAGNOLIA
Cheezee Spread
- Plain
250 g.
TLC PRICE
P37.25 /ea.
Reg. Price 41.25

ARGENTINA
Liver Spread
85 g.
TLC PRICE
P9.25 /ea.
Reg. Price 9.75

YUMMY
Peanut Butter
340 g.
TLC PRICE
P39.75 /ea.
Reg. Price 42.75

QUAKER
Cereal Beverage
- Original
- Coffee
- Chocolate
29 g./ 20's
TLC PRICE
P162.75 /pk.
Reg. Price 168.75

NESCAFE
Classic Coffee
Sachet
2 g / 84's
TLC PRICE
P102.50 /pk.
Reg. Price 104.50

NESCAFE
Classic Coffee
Refill
50 g.
TLC PRICE
P22.75 /ea.
Reg. Price 23.00

COFFEE-MATE
Coffee Creamer
Sachet
5 g./ 48's
TLC PRICE
P65.50 /pk.
Reg. Price 69.50

BONAKID
Growing Up Milk
1 kg
TLC PRICE
P256.75
Reg. Price 262.00

BEAR BRAND
Powdered Filled Milk
900 g.
TLC PRICE
P136.50
Reg. Price 139.50

ALASKA
Chocolate Milk Drink
250 mL.
TLC PRICE
P11.50 /ea.
Reg. Price 12.25

WRIGLEY'S
Tabs
- Double Mint
- Juicy Fruit Gum
60's
TLC PRICE
P35.00 /bag
Reg. Price 37.50

MONDE
Snowy Crisps
- Original
- Sweet Chili
92 g./ 8's
TLC PRICE
P25.00 /pk.
Reg. Price 29.75

MAGIC FLAKES
Premium Crackers
30 g./ 10's
TLC PRICE
P18.50 /pk.
Reg. Price 19.75

NISSIN
Bingo Choco
Sandwich Cookies
- Orange
- Vanilla
- Double Choco
10's
TLC PRICE
P21.75 /pk.
Reg. Price 22.75

NABISCO
Chips Ahoy!
95 g.
TLC PRICE
P26.00 /ea.
Reg. Price 27.50

LOACKER
Quadratini
- Kakao
- Napolitaner
- Vanille
250 g.
TLC PRICE
P89.75 /ea.
Reg. Price94.50

WHAMMO'S
Cupcake
- Ube Pandan
- Cheese Yema
- Choco Filling
10's
TLC PRICE
P41.00 /pk.
Reg. Price 44.00

SUN-MAID
Raisins
42.5 g./ 6's
TLC PRICE
P56.50 /pk.
Reg. Price 59.50

BIG BOB'S
Candy Clouds Crayon
Bubble Gum
12 g./ 10's
TLC PRICE
P37.50 /pk.
Reg. Price 39.50

PLANTERS
Cheez Mania
- Cheez Curls, 155.9 g.
- Cheez Balls, 113.4 g
TLC PRICE
P52.50 /ea.
Reg. Price 55.50

TANG
Orange Juice Powder
Refill
500 g.
TLC PRICE
P34.75 /ea.
Reg. Price 36.50

MAGNOLIA
Fruit Juice Drink
- Orange
- Mango
250 mL.
TLC PRICE
P8.50 /ea.
Reg. Price 9.50

DOLE
Pineapple Orange
Juice Drink
1.36 Liters
TLC PRICE
P30.00 /ea.
Reg. Price 33.75

COKE
In Can
330 mL.
TLC PRICE
P10.50 /can
Reg. Price 11.00

VIVA
Mineral Water
1 Liter
TLC PRICE
P14.50 /btl.
Reg. Price15.50

DENTAL-B
Flexor Toothbrush
- Soft
- Medium
- Hard
TLC PRICE
P52.75 /ea.
Reg. Price 58.75

CUDDLES
Cotton Buds
- Pink
- Blue
- Green
- Yellow
108's
TLC PRICE
P11.75 /pk.
Reg. Price 13.75

JERGENS
Gee Shampoo
- Moisturizing
- Conditioning
- Classic
200 mL.
TLC PRICE
P40.75 /ea.
Reg. Price 43.75

L'ORÉAL
Excellence Créme
- #3-3, Dark Golden Brown
- #4-45, Mahogany Copper Brown
TLC PRICE
P280.00 /ea.
Reg. Price 330.00

FREEMAN
Bare Foot
- All Variants
150 g.
TLC PRICE
P131.75 /ea.
Reg. Price 139.75

SEALER WIZ
Disposable Diaper
XL
16's
TLC PRICE
P173.50 /pk.
Reg. Price 187.50

ALL WRAP
Cling Wrap
30 cm. x 30 m
TLC PRICE
P33.75 /ea.
Reg. Price 37.75

SOFTEE
Royale Bathroom
Tissue
3 Ply
9's
TLC PRICE
P148.75 /pk.
Reg. Price 156.75

COMFORT
Fabric Conditioner
- Morning Fresh
- Colour
200 mL.
TLC PRICE
P25.50 /ea.
Reg. Price 27.50

FLORIDA
Scents Organic
& Hang-Ons
TLC PRICE
P99.75 /pk.

SM BONUS
Nylon Bowl Brush
TLC PRICE
P21.00 /ea.
Reg. Price 23.75

CLEAN'S-UP
Cotton Mophead
- Medium
TLC PRICE
P54.00 /ea.
Reg. Price 59.75

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